



County Borough of Wolverhampton

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The  
Health Services  
of  
Wolverhampton  
in 1957

ANNUAL REPORT

*by*

J. F. GALLOWAY, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.

L.R.C.P., D.P.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

Principal School Medical Officer



County Borough of Wolverhampton



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|              |  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
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# PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

at 31st December, 1957.

|   |     |     |  |
|---|-----|-----|--|
| Medical Officer of Health                                 | ... | ... | J. F. Galloway, M.D., Ch.B.,<br>M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.,<br>D.P.H.                                |
| Deputy Medical Officer<br>of Health                       | ... | ... | M. J. Rayner, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  |
| Maternity and Child Welfare<br>Senior Medical Officer     | ... |     | A. J. M. Lesslie, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.,<br>D.P.H.   |
| Assistant Medical Officers                                | ... |     | M. G. Bryan, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S.,<br>L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., C.P.H.<br>M. Ingham, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H. |
| Tuberculosis*   | ... | ... | J. Aspin, M.A., M.D., Ch.B.,<br>D.M.R.D.<br>J. D. P. David, B.Sc., M.D., B.Ch.                       |
| Analyst   | ... | ... | F. G. D. Chalmers, M.A., B.Sc.,<br>F.I.C. (Part time).   |
| Health Visiting<br>Superintendent                         | ... | ... | Miss M. Cole, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.   |
| Health Visitors   | ... | ... | 13.  |
| Nurses  | ... | ... | 2.   |
| Midwifery<br>Supervisor                                   | ... | ... | Mrs. D. K. Rinkel, S.R.N., S.C.M.,<br>M.T.D.   |
| District Midwives   | ... | ... | 20.  |
| Premature Baby Nurse                                      | ... | ... | 1.   |
| Home Nursing<br>Superintendent                            | ... | ... | Miss E. Hill, S.R.N., S.C.M.   |
| Home Nurses   | ... | ... | 19 (Six part time).  |
| Mental Health Service<br>Mental Deficiency Officer        | ... | ... | Miss E. Bottomley.   |
| Duly Authorised Officers                                  | ... | ... | F. L. Bird.<br>E. V. Oram, S.R.N., R.M.D.N.  |
| Occupation Centre Supervisor                              | ... | ... | Miss H. Chettle.   |
| Occupation Centre Assistants                              | ... | ... | 6 and 1 trainee.   |
| Home Help Service<br>Organiser                            | ... | ... | Miss M. Saunders.  |
| Home Helps  | ... | ... | 62 (51 part time).   |
| Day Nurseries<br>Matrons                                  | ... | ... | Miss E. Fitzgerald, S.R.N.<br>Miss K. Murray, C.N.N.   |
| Nursery Assistants  | ... | ... | 24.  |
| Domestic Staff  | ... | ... | 11 (Six part time).  |
| After-care Officer  | ... | ... | Miss E. H. Poole, B.A., A.M.I.A.   |
| Public Health Inspectors<br>Chief Public Health Inspector | ... | ... | F. Binns Hartley, M.A.P.H.I.<br>M.R.S.H.   |
| Specialist Inspectors                                     | ... | ... | 8.   |
| District Inspectors                                       | ... | ... | 5 (Two part time).   |
| Pupil Inspectors  | ... | ... | 4.   |
| Clerical<br>Chief Clerk                                   | ... | ... | J. Darby.  |
| Clerks  | ... | ... | 23.  |
| Clinic Clerks (Part time)                                 | ... | ... | 10.  |
| Other Staff<br>Rodent Operatives                          | ... | ... | 2.   |
| Miscellaneous   | ... | ... | 3.   |

\*Jointly with Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

Health Department,  
59, Waterloo Road,  
Wolverhampton.

August, 1958.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of Wolverhampton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting to you the report on the health of Wolverhampton during 1957, I wish to draw your attention particularly to some of the matters to which it refers.

Births exceeded deaths by 552 yet the population declined by 3,200 to 149,900, so that 3,752 residents must have left Wolverhampton during the year. The population of Wolverhampton reached its maximum of 162,300 in 1952; in the five subsequent years it has fallen by 12,400 and in that time births have exceeded deaths by 3,182; these figures mean that in five years 15,582 people, or 9.6 per cent of the population have gone to live elsewhere. Most of them have migrated to areas adjacent to Wolverhampton because there was not room to accommodate them within the borough. A sidelight on the feelings of some of those who move is seen in the Domiciliary Midwifery Service which attends confinements only at addresses within the borough; when these babies subsequently have been registered, it is found that 3 per cent of them are registered as having a permanent address outside the borough, showing that their mothers came to live temporarily with relatives or friends in Wolverhampton in order to use the authority's services.

Both the Transport Department and the Fire Brigade demand of their staff a high standard of fitness. Since the 3rd June 1957 the Health Department has been responsible for the medical examination of both groups of employees on entry, to prevent them undertaking work which might be detrimental to them, and to protect the employing departments from engaging staff who are physically

or mentally unsuitable. Local health authorities are not called upon to provide a general industrial health service, but it seems desirable as opportunity offers for them to organise and supervise an occupational health service for their employees.

During the year a new valuation list came into effect and this eliminated many discrepancies which had found their way into the old one over the last 20 years. With 46,249 inhabited properties in the borough the average number of occupants for each house amounted to 3.24.

The weekly average number of new claims for sickness benefit submitted to the Wolverhampton office of the Ministry of National Insurance during 1957 was 739, substantially more than the weekly average for the previous year which was 592. The difference was attributable to the epidemic of influenza in the autumn which also was largely responsible for 47 deaths from the disease, a number which has not been exceeded since 1951 which opened with an influenza epidemic. Deaths from tuberculosis declined to a new low level and poliomyelitis was responsible for no deaths. Cancer of the lung continued to increase as a cause of death and since 1954 when it caused 28 deaths in every 100,000 of the population, it rose to 32 deaths in 1955, to 43 deaths in 1956 and now to 45 deaths per 100,000 of the population in 1957. The relationship between heavy cigarette smoking and the majority of deaths from the condition is incontrovertible.

The venereal diseases show an unsatisfactory trend. Immediately after the war in 1946, new cases attending the Wolverhampton clinic reached the high figures of 196 patients suffering from syphilis and 315 suffering from gonorrhoea. The numbers declined steadily until in 1953 they had fallen to 22 new cases of syphilis and 62 new cases of gonorrhoea. In successive years since 1953 new cases of syphilis have numbered 26, 43, 46 and finally 74 cases in 1957; similarly in successive years since 1953 new cases of gonorrhoea have numbered 76, 84, 156 and finally 174 cases in 1957.



The Report of the Royal Commission on the Law Relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency which was published during the year, was received with widespread approval and acknowledged as foreshadowing the lines on which the mental health service will develop. Compulsion and restriction will be removed whenever possible and much of the responsibility for the care of the mentally disordered at present undertaken by the hospitals will be transferred to the local health authorities, continuing a trend which has been growing in the last five years. These new responsibilities for mental health will make demands on money, initiative and understanding. Legislation cannot diminish the problem of mental disorder ; it can only redistribute the responsibility for dealing with it. The transfer of many patients who are mentally ill or mentally defective from hospitals to their own homes will create new difficulties in which the co-operation of the Housing Department will be invaluable, for, in future, home conditions will be a significant factor in deciding which cases need institutional care.

The increasing number of visits paid by the home nurses to old people is one aspect of the most pressing problem facing health and welfare services. Old people can receive medical care from the family doctor, nursing assistance from the Home Nursing Service and domestic help from the Home Help Service with the object of making it possible to continue caring for them in their own homes. If they become too frail to fend for themselves and are without relatives willing to care for them, the welfare authority should provide accommodation for them ; if they become permanently sick and require a lot of nursing the hospitals should be there to provide it. Unfortunately there is a shortage of hospital beds for old people in Wolverhampton. In England and Wales as a whole over 1.2 beds per thousand population have been allocated in National Health Service hospitals for the treatment of chronic sick patients, other than the mentally ill and the mentally defective, and these chronic sick patients are mostly old. The shortage of beds is so great in Wolverhampton that they amount to less than half the average for the whole country, and this shortage is likely to be severe until the Regional Hospital Board provides alternative accommodation for mentally defective patients who occupy accommodation at New Cross Hospital which would be better used for the chronic sick to the advantage both of the chronic sick and of the mental defectives. The most effective use of these limited

beds requires close co-operation between hospital authorities, general practitioners, the Welfare Services Department, home nurses, mental welfare officers, public health inspectors, health visitors and the Housing Department.

The domiciliary midwifery service has continued to deal with half the confinements of Wolverhampton mothers. Since early in the year accommodation in the maternity wards of New Cross Hospital has been limited by alterations and the premature discharge of patients has proved inevitable. Their subsequent nursing at home has added substantially to the work of the domiciliary midwives but the close co-operation between the hospital and Health Department has overcome the difficulties.

The evening dental sessions for expectant mothers have been invaluable in securing for them treatment which otherwise might have been difficult to obtain. The number of medical practitioners on the Wolverhampton Executive Council's list has increased from 92 to 118 since 1948 while the number of dentists in full time general practice under contract with the Executive Council has fallen from 44 in 1949 to 39 in 1957, who endeavour to deal with a population probably of over 250,000 people. Few of the 5% of the school population capable of achieving University standards choose dentistry as a career. As the profession inevitably will be under-manned for many decades and as it is freely open to women, the continued shortage of entrants to this rewarding career remains a mystery.

Mr. Hartley, Chief Public Health Inspector, in his report includes information on the work at the public abattoir where the number of animals slaughtered continues to grow; all this meat is examined by Inspectors provided by Wolverhampton although much of it is destined to be consumed outside the borough. The slum clearance programme with its physical, mental and moral benefit to thousands of people is proceeding without interruption: the intention to repair and to retain temporarily a proportion of the houses in the Oxley Street clearance area is designed to prevent hardship to a small group of people who either through age or other circumstances find that removal to a new district presents



insurmountable difficulties. The Clean Air Act, apart from its provisions for establishing smoke control areas, will help to produce a cleaner atmosphere through its requirements relating to new furnaces and to the height of chimneys.

There are indissoluble links between on the one hand these measures to ensure the cleanness of the food and drink which people consume, the fitness of the houses they occupy and the purity of the air they breathe, and on the other hand mental and physical hazards which they have to face and by which at times they are incapacitated. Similarly there are indissoluble links between the health and welfare services of local authorities which support the vulnerable or incapacitated portion of the population and the general practitioners who minister to their immediate needs. There are equally indissoluble links between the general practitioner working with the health and welfare services of the local authority and the hospital services which provide specialised nursing care and treatment. As changes in the structure of local government are contemplated, it is opportune to realise that plans which are not designed to make the areas of sanitary, health and welfare authorities and hospital management committees more nearly co-extensive, are not designed to benefit the health services.

I wish to express my appreciation of the co-operation of the staff of the Health Department, and on their behalf I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest, encouragement and support.

Yours faithfully,

J. F. GALLOWAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION 1.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

## A. Summary of Statistics.

## 1. Comparison of Statistics.

|   | 1927.    | 1937.    | 1947.      | 1956.      | 195    |
|---|----------|----------|------------|------------|--------|
| Population  | 135,200  | 144,000  | 155,610    | 153,100    | 149,9  |
| Area in Acres                                       | 7,105    | 9,126    | 9,126      | 9,126      | 9,1    |
| Inhabited houses                                    | 29,100   | 38,904   | 42,276     | 46,520     | 46,5   |
| Birth Rate (live)                                   | 18.2     | 16.9     | 21.6       | 15.5       | 1      |
| Death Rate  | 11.7     | 11.9     | 11.6       | 11.7       | 1      |
| Infant Mortality Rate<br>(per 1,000 live births)    | 91.      | 68.      | 43.        | 27.3       | 2      |
| Still Birth Rate<br>(per 1,000 total births)        | —        | 37.8     | 25.5       | 31.8       | 2      |
| Maternal Mortality Rate<br>(per 1,000 total births) | 3.2      | 1.6      | 1.2        | 0.8        |        |
| Cancer Death Rate                                   | 1.12     | 1.43     | 1.87       | 2.02       |        |
| Tuberculosis Death Rate                             | 0.87     | 0.83     | 0.60       | 0.12       |        |
| Pulmonary only                                      | 0.74     | 0.69     | 0.56       | 0.11       |        |
| Rateable Value                                      | £739,276 | £893,813 | £1,074,824 | £1,137,550 | £2,191 |
| Product of Penny Rate                               | £2,814   | £3,515   | £4,334     | £4,620     | £8     |



## 2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of 1957.

|  |  |         |        |
|--|--|---------|--------|
| Area of Borough                                    | 9,126 acres.                                 |         |        |
| Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate) | 149,900.                                     |         |        |
| Number of inhabited houses (31st March, 1957)      | 46,249.                                      |         |        |
| Rateable value (31st March, 1957)                  | £2,191,359.                                  |         |        |
| Sum represented by a penny rate                    | £8,915.                                      |         |        |
| <b>Live Births.</b>                                | Male.  | Female. | Total. |
| Legitimate   | 1,080  | 1,034   | 2,114  |
| Illegitimate                                       | 93   | 57      | 150    |
| Total  | 1,173  | 1,091   | 2,264  |
|  | 15.1 per 1,000 population.                   |         |        |
| <b>Still Births.</b>                               |  |         |        |
| Legitimate   | 32   | 21      | 53     |
| Illegitimate                                       | 2  | 3       | 5      |
| Total  | 34   | 24      | 58     |
|  | 0.4 per 1,000 population.                    |         |        |
|  | 25.0 per 1,000 total births.                 |         |        |
| <b>Deaths</b>                                      | 957  | 755     | 1,712  |
|  | 11.4 per 1,000 population.                   |         |        |
| <b>Natural Increase</b>                            | 552  |         |        |
| <b>Infant Mortality.</b>                           |  |         |        |
| Legitimate   | 35   | 17      | 52     |
|  | 24.6 per 1,000 live Legitimate births.       |         |        |
| Illegitimate                                       | 3  | 2       | 5      |
|  | 33.3 per 1,000 live Illegitimate births.     |         |        |
| Total  | 38   | 19      | 57     |
|  | 25.2 per 1,000 live births.                  |         |        |
| <b>Maternal Mortality.</b>                         |  |         |        |
| Septic abortion                                    |  | 1       |        |
| Obstructed labour                                  |  | 1       |        |
| Post Partum Haemorrhage                            |  | 1       |        |
|  |  | —       |        |
|  |  | 3       |        |
|  | 1.3 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. |         |        |
| <b>Deaths from Tuberculosis.</b>                   |  |         |        |
| Pulmonary  | 13   | 1       | 14     |
| Non-Pulmonary                                      | 1  | 2       | 3      |
| Total  | 14   | 3       | 17     |
|  | 0.11 per 1,000 population.                   |         |        |
| <b>Deaths from Infectious Diseases.</b>            |  |         |        |
| Gastro-enteritis                                   | 4  | 5       | 9      |
| Influenza  | 22   | 25      | 47     |
| Syphilitic disease                                 | 3  | 8       | 11     |
| Meningococcal infections                           | 2  | 1       | 3      |
| Herpes Zoster                                      | 1  | —       | 1      |
| Post-encephalitis Lethargica                       | —  | 1       | 1      |
| <b>Deaths from Cancer.</b>                         | 192  | 123     | 315    |
|  | 2.10 per 1,000 population.                   |         |        |
| <b>Area Comparability Factors.</b>                 |  |         |        |
| Births   | 0.98   |         |        |
| Deaths   | 1.13   |         |        |



TABLE I.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1957.

| CAUSES OF DEATH.  | Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents within the Borough. |                         |                        |                  |                          |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |                         |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
|                   | Male.<br>All<br>ages.   | Female.<br>All<br>ages. | Total.<br>All<br>ages. | Under<br>1 year. | 1 and<br>under<br>5 yrs. | 5 and<br>under<br>15 yrs. | 15 and<br>under<br>25 yrs. | 25 and<br>under<br>45 yrs. | 45 and<br>under<br>65 yrs. | 65 and<br>under<br>75 yrs. | 75 yrs.<br>and<br>over. |
| es ... ..         | 957   | 755                     | 1,712                  | 57               | 5                        | 9                         | 18                         | 85                         | 435                        | 437                        | 666                     |
| osis, Respiratory | 13  | 1                       | 14                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 2                          | 7                          | 4                          | 1                       |
| osis, other ...   | 1   | 2                       | 3                      | —                | 1                        | —                         | 1                          | —                          | —                          | 1                          | —                       |
| e Disease ...     | 3   | 8                       | 11                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 1                          | 2                          | 6                          | 2                       |
| g Cough ...       | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| coccal Infection  | 2   | 1                       | 3                      | 3                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| oliomyelitis ...  | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| fective and       | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| tic Diseases ...  | 1   | 2                       | 3                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | 2                          | —                          | 1                       |
| f Stomach ...     | 29  | 16                      | 45                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 1                          | 14                         | 18                         | 12                      |
| f Lung,           | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| us ... ..         | 57  | 11                      | 68                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 5                          | 35                         | 21                         | 7                       |
| f Breast ...      | —   | 23                      | 23                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 3                          | 11                         | 4                          | 5                       |
| f Uterus ...      | —   | 11                      | 11                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 2                          | 5                          | 1                          | 3                       |
| alignant and      | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| atic Neoplasms    | 97  | 58                      | 155                    | —                | —                        | 1                         | 1                          | 11                         | 47                         | 57                         | 38                      |
| ia, Aleukaemia    | 9   | 4                       | 13                     | —                | —                        | 3                         | 2                          | 1                          | 5                          | —                          | 2                       |
| ... ..            | 1   | 4                       | 5                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | 1                          | 4                          | —                       |
| lesions of        | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| us system ...     | 126   | 124                     | 250                    | —                | —                        | —                         | 1                          | 5                          | 47                         | 75                         | 122                     |
| y Disease, Angina | 116   | 73                      | 189                    | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 1                          | 71                         | 58                         | 59                      |
| ision with Heart  | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| e ... ..          | 20  | 20                      | 40                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 1                          | 7                          | 12                         | 20                      |
| heart Disease ... | 117   | 134                     | 251                    | —                | —                        | —                         | 2                          | 6                          | 31                         | 57                         | 155                     |
| rculatory disease | 33  | 23                      | 56                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 1                          | 11                         | 11                         | 33                      |
| ... ..            | 22  | 25                      | 47                     | 1                | —                        | —                         | 1                          | 3                          | 18                         | 12                         | 12                      |
| ia ... ..         | 49  | 32                      | 81                     | 4                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 5                          | 22                         | 21                         | 29                      |
| is ... ..         | 87  | 22                      | 109                    | 1                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 2                          | 35                         | 25                         | 46                      |
| seases of         | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| itory system ...  | 10  | 4                       | 14                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 6                          | 3                          | 5                          | —                       |
| Stomach and       | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| num ... ..        | 9   | 5                       | 14                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 2                          | 6                          | 3                          | 3                       |
| , Enteritis and   | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| oea ... ..        | 4   | 5                       | 9                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | 3                          | 4                          | 2                       |
| s and Nephrosis   | 9   | 10                      | 19                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 7                          | 7                          | 3                          | 2                       |
| asia of prostate  | 11  | —                       | 11                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | 4                          | 7                       |
| y, Childbirth,    | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| ion ... ..        | —   | 3                       | 3                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 3                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| al                | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| rmations ...      | 16  | 10                      | 26                     | 19               | 1                        | 1                         | 1                          | —                          | 2                          | 2                          | —                       |
| efined and        | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| ned diseases ...  | 66  | 78                      | 144                    | 28               | 1                        | 1                         | 3                          | 6                          | 23                         | 19                         | 63                      |
| ehicle accidents  | 18  | 3                       | 21                     | —                | 1                        | 1                         | 3                          | 7                          | 3                          | 2                          | 4                       |
| ... ..            | 8   | 7                       | 15                     | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | 1                          | 8                          | 1                          | 5                       |
| r accidents ...   | 21  | 36                      | 57                     | 1                | 1                        | 2                         | 3                          | 3                          | 7                          | 7                          | 33                      |
| e and operations  | —   | —                       | —                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                       |
| r ... ..          | 2   | —                       | 2                      | —                | —                        | —                         | —                          | —                          | 2                          | —                          | —                       |

## **B. General Statistics.**

### **1. Population.**

The Registrar General's estimate of the population at the 30th June, 1957 was 149,900, a decline of 3,200 in a year.

### **2. Inhabited Houses.**

At 31st March, 1957, there were 46,249 inhabited properties. The types of premises and their numbers were :—

|                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Domestic                              | 44,656 |
| House Shops                           | 1,249  |
| Off-licences                          | 53     |
| Unlicensed hotels and boarding houses | 34     |
| Licensed premises                     | 257    |

These figures have been based on the new valuation list which came into effect on the 1st April, 1956. They cannot be compared with figures given for the previous year, which were based on the valuation list prepared in 1934 and into which, over the years, many discrepancies had found their way.

The number of additional dwellings brought into rate in the year ending 31st March, 1957 was 214 and the number fallen out was 193, leaving an increase of only 21.

### **3. Live Births.**

Live births consisted of 1,173 males and 1,091 females, a total of 2,264 (which is 113 less than in 1956) giving a birth rate of 15.1 per thousand population ; when the area comparability factor of 0.98 is applied, this is reduced to 14.8 per thousand. The birth rate for the whole of England and Wales was 16.1.

Of these 2,264 births, 150 or 6.6% were illegitimate. Last year the proportion was 5.9%.

### **4. Still Births.**

These numbered 58 (of which 5 were illegitimate). These 58 represented rates of 0.38 per thousand population and 25.0 per thousand total births (live and still). The still birth rate for the whole of England and Wales was 23 per thousand total births.



## 5. Marriages.

The number of marriages registered in Wolverhampton during the year was 1,486, representing a marriage rate of 19.8 per thousand population. The rate for England and Wales was 15.4 per thousand population.

## 6. Deaths.

The number of deaths, comprising 957 males and 755 females, was 1,712 giving a death rate of 11.4 per thousand population ; when the area comparability factor of 1.13 is applied this rate is increased to 12.9 per 1,000. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.5 .

The principal causes of death were :—

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| (a) Diseases of the Heart and Circulation. |                             |
| Vascular lesions of the nervous system     | 251                         |
| Coronary disease, angina                   | 189                         |
| Hypertension with heart disease            | 40                          |
| Other heart disease                        | 251                         |
| Other circulatory disease                  | 56                          |
|  | <hr/>                       |
|  | 787 (46.0 % of all deaths). |
| (b) Cancer                                 | 315 (18.4 % of all deaths). |
| (c) Diseases of Respiratory Tract.         |                             |
| Pneumonia                                  | 81                          |
| Bronchitis                                 | 109                         |
| Other respiratory diseases                 | 14                          |
|  | <hr/>                       |
|  | 204 (11.9 % of all deaths). |
| (d) Suicide and Violence.                  |                             |
| Suicide                                    | 15                          |
| Motor vehicle accidents                    | 21                          |
| All other accidents                        | 57                          |
| Homicide and operations of war             | 2                           |
|  | <hr/>                       |
|  | 95 ( 5.5 % of all deaths).  |
| (e) Influenza                              | 47 ( 2.7 % of all deaths).  |
| (f) Congenital malformations               | 26 ( 1.5 % of all deaths).  |
| (g) Nephritis and nephrosis                | 19 ( 1.1 % of all deaths).  |
| (h) Tuberculosis—all forms                 | 17 ( 1.0 % of all deaths).  |
| (i) Ulcer of stomach and duodenum          | 14 ( 0.8 % of all deaths).  |

### **7. Infant Mortality.**

There were 5 deaths of illegitimate infants under one year of age (or 33.3 per thousand illegitimate births) and 52 deaths of legitimate infants (or 24.6 per thousand legitimate births). The total of 57 represents an infant mortality rate of 25.2 per thousand live births. The rate for the whole of England and Wales was 23.1 per thousand live births.

### **8. Perinatal Mortality.**

Still births numbered 58 and deaths of infants under one week of age numbered 33, giving a total of 91 perinatal deaths or 39.2 per thousand live and still births. In the previous year the rate was 49.7 per thousand live and still births.

### **9. Maternal Mortality.**

Three maternal deaths occurred, one due to septic abortion in a patient aged 33, one due to surgical shock following treatment of obstructed labour in a patient aged 42 pregnant for the eleventh time and one due to post-partum haemorrhage in a patient aged 36 suffering from mitral stenosis. As there were 2,322 live and still births, these three deaths gave a maternal mortality rate of 1.3 per thousand total (live and still) births.

Two other deaths occurred which were indirectly associated with pregnancy, one an Indian aged 22 who died of tuberculous peritonitis and tuberculous enteritis following a caesarean section, and one, a Jamaican aged 37 who died from aortic incompetence following a full-term pregnancy resulting in a stillbirth.

### **10. Deaths from Tuberculosis.**

There were 17 deaths from tuberculosis, representing a tuberculosis death rate of 0.11 per thousand population, the lowest yet recorded in Wolverhampton. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 also was 0.11.

Respiratory tuberculosis was responsible for 14 of these deaths : 13 were males and of these, 2 were aged 36 and 38 respectively and the remainder were aged 45 or over as also was the one female who died.

The three deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were of a child of 2 years with meningitis, an Indian woman with peritonitis and enteritis and a woman of 72 with tuberculosis of the spine.

#### **11. Deaths from Infectious and Notifiable Diseases.**

There were 81 deaths from pneumonia (representing 0.54 deaths per thousand population) but only a small proportion of these deaths occurred among the 173 cases of pneumonia which were notified.

Influenza was responsible for 47 deaths (0.31 per thousand population); over half the victims were aged 65 years or over, and 42 of the 47 deaths occurred in the last quarter of the year.

Syphilis caused 11 deaths (0.07 per thousand population) and 8 of the deaths were of persons aged 65 years or over ; the younger patients aged 37 (a Jamaican), 60 and 62 years died of aortic incompetence, aortic aneurysm and aortic incompetence respectively.

There were 3 deaths (0.02 per thousand population) from meningococcal infection, all in children under one year old. There were 9 deaths from gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea (0.06 per thousand population) but none were of children.

One patient aged 76 died of herpes zoster, and one aged 60 of post-encephalitic parkinsonism.

#### **12. Deaths from Cancer.**

There were 315 deaths from Cancer, giving a death rate of 2.1 per thousand population. Of these deaths 192 occurred in males and the more frequent sites of the disease were lungs and bronchi (57 cases), stomach (29 cases), large intestine (23), rectum (16), leukaemia (9), prostate (16), bladder (6) and oesophagus (6).

Among the 123 deaths which occurred in females the most frequent sites of the disease were the breast (23 cases), large intestine (23 cases), stomach (16), lungs and bronchi (11), uterus (11) and rectum (5).



### 13. Sickness Claims.

New claims for sickness benefit (excluding industrial disease or industrial injury claims) submitted to the Wolverhampton office of the Ministry of National Insurance during 1957 numbered 38,453 with a weekly average of 739; the most claims in a week were 3,117, 2,740 and 2,427 which occurred in the weeks ending October 8th, October 15th and October 21st; the fewest claims in a week were 239, 351 and 365 which occurred in the weeks ending August 6th, July 30th and August 13th. The weekly average of 739 was substantially higher than that of 1956 which was 592 and the increase reflected the epidemic of influenza which lasted from the latter part of September until the end of October, when over a period of 6 weeks new claims totalled 12,250 with a weekly average of 2,042.

### 14. Cremation.

A total of 1,271 cremations took place, an increase of 120 on last year's figure. The total included 520 persons resident in Wolverhampton, who accordingly constituted 40.9% of those cremated.

Post-mortem examinations were carried out in 220 cases; 130 were at the request of the coroners, and of these, 95 were performed by expert pathologists. Two post-mortem examinations made at the request of the medical referee were both performed by expert pathologists. On no occasion was cremation refused.

Between the 12th June 1954 when the crematorium was opened and the 31st December 1957, 3,756 cremations have taken place. Of these, 1,579 or 42% were from Wolverhampton, 1,168 or 31% were from areas contiguous to Wolverhampton (Bilston 4.4%, Seisdon 4.3%, Wednesfield 4.2%, Sedgley 4.0%, Coseley 3.8%, Willenhall 3.8%, Cannock R. D. 3.4% and Tettenhall 3.1%), and 1,009 or 27% were from further afield, mainly the Shrewsbury, Stafford, Wellington, Rugeley, Bridgnorth, Wall Heath, Kingswinford, Stourbridge and Kidderminster areas.



## C. Natural and Social Conditions.

### 1. Situation.

Wolverhampton stands astride a ridge which is the watershed between the Severn and Trent; to the east the land slopes down to and merges with the industrial area of the Black Country, and to the west it spreads out to the Shropshire plain. The highest points in the borough, about 600 feet above sea level, are in Bushbury to the north and Upper Penn to the south; the lowest points, less than 350 feet above sea level, are in the vicinity of the airport and racecourse.

### 2. Meteorology.

Rainfall recorded at the West Park amounted to 25.64 inches, which is 0.71 inches more than the total for 1956 but 2.16 inches below the average annual rainfall calculated over the sixty years since records were first kept by the department in 1898; during each of the last three years, the rainfall has been well below average.

Rain was measured on 164 days, and the highest rainfall recorded for one day was 0.80 inches on the 10th September; 0.78 inches fell a fortnight later. The wettest month was September with 4.30 inches, and the amounts recorded for July and August were 3.40 and 3.70 inches respectively; the rainfall for the "summer" months of June, July, August and September amounted to 13.14 inches, which represented more than half the year's total. The driest month was April with 0.14 inches of which 0.12 inches fell on one day (12th); the first ten days and the last thirteen days of the month were fine and dry. In April 1938, a similar amount of rainfall was recorded but a drier fourth month has not been experienced for at least sixty years. No rainfall was recorded from the 18th April to the 7th May (inclusive)—a dry spell of twenty days, which was an official period of drought. In May, the first seven and the last eleven days were fine and dry, but 1.36 inches fell on the remaining days; although 1.74 inches of rain fell in June, eleven days in the middle of the month were fine and dry. In October, there was no rain for the first fourteen days, but 1.75 inches were measured in the latter half of the month, while 1.94 inches fell

during the first five days of November, rain being recorded on only three other days to make a total of 2.17 inches for the month. Snow was rare and fell only on three days during February.

The temperatures in March were comparatively high, and during the period 10th to 14th readings of well above  $60^{\circ}$  were registered. The hottest day of the year was the 28th June, when a shade temperature of  $84.5^{\circ}$  was recorded whilst the lowest temperature registered was  $24.0^{\circ}$  on the 7th November; readings of  $24.5^{\circ}$  were taken for the 14th and 15th December.

### 3. Water Supply.

The Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking, which supplies a population of approximately 263,780 in Wolverhampton and some surrounding districts, obtains its water from several sources. These and the daily average million gallons taken from them in 1957 are :—

|                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Cosford Works—river          | 1.771 |
| Cosford Works—well           | 2.044 |
| Tettenhall Works—boreholes   | 1.069 |
| Dimmingsdale Works—boreholes | 2.425 |
| Hilton Works—boreholes       | 3.028 |
| Stableford Works—boreholes   | 1.937 |
| Goldthorn Hill Works—well    | —     |
| Purchased                    | 0.216 |

The total hardness, in parts per million, varies from 211 in the Cosford Well Water to 309 in the water from the Tettenhall Works. The water from the new Stableford Works is considerably harder, being 650 parts per million but is blended with other supplies.

The figures of fluorides as parts per million of fluorine are as follows :—

|                                    |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Cosford—River Worfe—filtered water | 0.07 |
| Cosford—well                       | 0.09 |
| Dimmingsdale, Nos. 1 & 2 boreholes | 0.05 |
| Hilton No. 1 borehole              | 0.05 |
| Hilton No. 2 borehole              | 0.03 |
| Tettenhall No. 1 borehole          | 0.01 |
| Tettenhall No. 2 borehole          | 0.01 |
| Stableford No. 4 borehole          | 0.04 |

Of 894 samples of water subjected to bacteriological examination 876 or 98 per cent contained no coliform organisms per 100 ml.

#### **4. Occupations.**

The principal industries arranged according to the numbers employed are metals (manufacture and miscellaneous metal products); vehicles (including aircraft and components, cycles, etc.); mechanical and electrical engineering; distributive trades; professional services; transport (including public transport); building and civil engineering; rubber; public administration (national and local government); miscellaneous services including sports, entertainment, catering, domestic services etc.; food, drink and tobacco; gas, water and electricity supplies; textiles.

#### **5. Unemployment.**

Throughout 1956 unemployment had been at a very low level but at the beginning of 1957 it tended to rise a little and then remained fairly steady until mid-year when there was an improvement; during December there was again a slight increase probably due to seasonal causes and registered unemployment then represented 0.9 per cent of the total insured employees in the area compared with 0.7 per cent at the end of 1956, but this was still lower than the national average of approximately 1.5 per cent.

## **SECTION II.**

### **HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.**

#### **A. Hospital, Specialist and Allied Services.**

##### **1. Hospitals.**

The Wolverhampton Hospital Management Committee is responsible for institutions and clinics in an area extending from Wolverhampton to Bridgnorth, Much Wenlock, Broseley and Shifnal, with an estimated population of 355,000. The institutions contain 2,069 beds; of these, 1,783 are in Wolverhampton, including 400 beds in "The Poplars", where the Management



Committee provides serviced accommodation for the use of aged non-sick people, and 80 beds in the Reception Centre which also are serviced by the Hospital Management Committee. Both "The Poplars" and the Reception Centre are adjacent to New Cross Hospital.

The following 1,303 hospital beds are in Wolverhampton :—

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| New Cross Hospital                  | 634 |
| Royal Hospital                      | 310 |
| Women's Hospital and Annexe         | 91  |
| Parkfields Hospital                 | 66  |
| Queen Victoria Nursing Institute    | 43  |
| Children's Hospital, Penn           | 30  |
| Women's Convalescent Hospital, Penn | 13  |
| Eye Infirmary                       | 100 |
| Beeches Maternity Home              | 16  |

In addition to providing hospital facilities for Wolverhampton, these beds meet almost all the hospital requirements of the Borough of Bilston and the Urban Districts of Tettenhall, Wednesfield and Willenhall. They also constitute the main provision of hospital accommodation for the Urban District of Coseley and the Rural District of Seisdon.

## **2. Sanatoria.**

The Isolation Hospital, now re-named Parkfields Hospital, contains 54 beds for tuberculous patients and only 12 beds now are allocated to the treatment of infectious diseases. There is no hospital accommodation in the area built specially for the treatment of tuberculosis, and pulmonary cases usually receive treatment at Prestwood, Kinver or Groundslow; cases requiring orthopaedic treatment usually obtain it at Oswestry.

## **3. Chest Clinic.**

The centrally situated Bell Street Clinic provides facilities for following up cases of chronic chest disorders in Wolverhampton and District.



Out-patient clinics for chest conditions at the Royal Hospital and at New Cross Hospital, and the weekly mass radiography sessions provide a diagnostic service. Over a third of the new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis which were recognised had been sent to mass radiography units by general practitioners for x-ray exclusion of pulmonary tuberculosis.

#### **4. Venereal Diseases Clinic.**

This is situated at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, and serves both Wolverhampton and the surrounding district.

#### **5. Nursing Homes.**

The only private maternity home closed at the end of the year, and the larger of the two private nursing homes also closed in July, leaving one small home with two beds.

#### **6. Bacteriology.**

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Stafford, and at the Pathological Laboratory of the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton. Most specimens must still be sent to Stafford at considerable inconvenience because the establishment of a much needed Public Health Laboratory in Wolverhampton continues to be delayed.

### **B. Local Executive Council Services.**

#### **1. General Medical Service.**

At the end of March 1958 there were 155,326 people recorded as living in Wolverhampton, on doctors' lists. Their medical care was undertaken by 124 principal and 10 assistant medical practitioners, 59 of whom live within the borough. There are 61 surgeries within the borough from which doctors practise.

The cost of this service for the year ending 31st March 1958 was £210,351 equivalent to 28/- a head of the population of 149,900 living in Wolverhampton.

## **2. Pharmaceutical Service.**

At the end of March 1958, there were under contract and in the borough of Wolverhampton 43 pharmacies, 7 surgical appliance suppliers and one drug store. The Executive Council tests the dispensing of all these contractors over a period of two years, and in the year under review 22 drug tests and 5 appliance tests were made.

The cost of this service to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March 1958 was £182,210 and to the patients £40,982, being equivalent to 24/4 and 5/6 a head per annum respectively.

## **3. Dental Service.**

At the end of March 1958 there were 39 principal and one assistant dental practitioners on the Executive Council's list. The cost to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March 1958 was £142,093 and to the patients £42,334 being equivalent to 18/11 and 5/8 a head per annum respectively.

## **4. Ophthalmic Service.**

The service enables the patient to have his sight tested by either an ophthalmic medical practitioner or an ophthalmic optician and then, if glasses are necessary, to have them provided either by an ophthalmic optician or a dispensing optician. There were at the end of March 1958 under contract with the Ophthalmic Service Committee 7 principal and one assistant ophthalmic medical practitioners, 13 ophthalmic opticians and 9 dispensing opticians. Dr. Jevons, Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, is one of the ophthalmic medical practitioners and prescribes spectacles for school children who require them.

The cost to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March 1958 was £42,777 and to the patients £25,474, being equivalent to 5/8 and 3/5 a head per annum respectively.

## **5. General.**

The cost of administration for the year ending 31st March 1958 was £9,208 equivalent to 1/3 a head of the population. The total cost of the services therefore was £586,671, equivalent to

£3 18s. 3d. a head of the population. In addition, the direct contribution made by the patients was £108,790, equivalent to 14/6 a head of the population.

### **C. Local Authority Health Service.**

#### **1. Care of Mothers and Children.**

##### **(a) Births and Still Births.**

There were 2,264 infants born alive during the year to parents normally resident in Wolverhampton; of these infants 1,175 were born at home and 1,089 in institutions. The still births numbered 58 and of these, 15 were born at home and 43 in institutions.

The percentage of these births which took place at home in 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957 were 52, 49, 49 and 51 respectively.

##### **(b) Ante-natal Facilities.**

At the end of the year, 9 ante-natal clinics were conducted each week by medical officers (all of whom are full-time members of the Health Department), with the assistance of midwives. There is no specialist ante-natal clinic, but cases requiring a second opinion are referred through the general practitioner to the consultant clinics at New Cross Hospital or the Women's Hospital. Blood examinations for the rhesus factor and the Wassermann test are carried out at the ante-natal clinics on all expectant mothers. Instruction in mothercraft is given at the infant welfare centres, and to a lesser extent at the ante-natal clinics.

Unmarried mothers are interviewed by the superintendent health visitor and given any help which may be required, including if necessary admission ante-natally to a mother and baby home. Arrangements are made with the medical officers of the Health Department for blood tests to be done, and the ante-natal care of the patient is undertaken either by the clinic or by her own doctor.

Maternity outfits are issued at all clinics to patients on the presentation of a note from either the general practitioner or the domiciliary midwife. In addition, each midwife retains two



maternity outfits in her own home for use in an emergency, and these are renewed as they are used. As 1,315 maternity packs were issued in 1957, all patients confined at home appear to have received them.

Ante-natal clinics, at which midwives are present, were attended by 2,388 women, of whom 1,877 were new cases, and an average of 3.8 visits was made by each patient. The new cases again far exceed the number of domiciliary confinements and are equivalent to 80 per cent of all confinements, both domiciliary and institutional, of Wolverhampton residents.

**(c) Post-natal Care.**

A weekly post-natal clinic, conducted by a hospital specialist is provided by the Health Department at Lowe Street welfare centre; in addition, post-natal examinations are carried out by the general practitioners and at the hospital post-natal clinics. Only a small proportion of mothers confined at home subsequently attend the Lowe Street clinic; new cases attending in 1957 were 52 compared with 62 the previous year. The number of attendances was 148.

**(d) Family Planning Clinic.**

Married women referred by medical practitioners are admitted to the clinic held weekly at Lowe Street welfare centre where they are advised on methods of birth control. In the years 1955, 1956 and 1957 women attending for the first time numbered 68, 66 and 43 respectively, and the corresponding numbers of attendances were 745, 810 and 719.

**(e) Child Welfare.**

Each week 13 sessions are held for infants and toddlers at 8 centres. Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, vaccination against smallpox and tuberculin patch tests are carried out at these clinics. Approximately 70 per cent of children under one year of age in the town attended them.

Minor ailments of children under school age are treated by arrangement at the minor ailment clinics of the School Health Service, and in addition, special paediatric, orthopaedic and ultra-violet light clinics are held jointly with that Service.

The paediatric clinic, to which children in need of specialist advice may be referred from the infant welfare centres, is held fortnightly.

The orthopaedic clinic, to which children with minor deformities are sent from the welfare centres, is held weekly. After examination by the orthopaedic surgeon, the prescribed treatment is carried out by a physiotherapist, who attends the clinic daily. During the year 498 attendances were made by 256 children of whom 129 were attending for the first time.

The ultra-violet light clinic is held twice weekly and children suffering from conditions likely to benefit are referred to it from the welfare centres. During the year 47 cases made 251 attendances.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, 1957.

|                                     | Ford-houses | Lea Road | Lowe Street | Park Lane | St. Oswalds | St. Martins | Ward Street | Masefield Road | Totals |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------|
| INFANTS.                            |             |          |             |           |             |             |             |                |        |
| No. of sessions ...                 | 99          | 99       | 49          | 99        | 102         | 51          | 100         | 49             | 648    |
| New cases under 1 year ...          | 209         | 289      | 212         | 307       | 188         | 110         | 190         | 114            | 1,619  |
| Attendances under 1 year ...        | 2,182       | 3,801    | 1,577       | 2,616     | 2,266       | 996         | 2,257       | 798            | 16,493 |
| Attendances over 1 year ...         | 796         | 688      | 369         | 470       | 647         | 296         | 569         | 341            | 4,176  |
| Total Attendances ...               | 2,978       | 4,489    | 1,946       | 3,086     | 2,913       | 1,292       | 2,826       | 1,139          | 20,669 |
| Average attendances per session ... | 30.1        | 45.3     | 39.7        | 31.2      | 28.6        | 25.3        | 28.2        | 23.2           | 31.9   |
| ANTE-NATAL.                         |             |          |             |           |             |             |             |                |        |
| No. of sessions ...                 | 49          | 101      | 50          | 49        | 51          | 51          | 51          | 49             | 451    |
| New cases ...                       | 248         | 342      | 250         | 326       | 190         | 129         | 221         | 171            | 1,877  |
| Total Attendances ...               | 1,223       | 1,421    | 1,189       | 1,326     | 962         | 858         | 1,307       | 848            | 9,128  |
| Average attendances per session ... | 25.0        | 14.1     | 23.8        | 27.0      | 18.9        | 16.8        | 25.6        | 17.3           | 20.2   |

| POST-NATAL CLINIC.<br>(Lowe Street) |     | FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.<br>(Lowe Street) |      |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--|------|
| No. of Sessions ...                 | 48  | No. of Sessions ...                      | 50   |
| New Cases ...                       | 52  | New Cases ...                            | 43   |
| Total Attendances ...               | 148 | Total Attendances ...                    | 719  |
| Average per session ...             | 3.1 | Average per session ...                  | 14.4 |



**(f) Infant Deaths.**

There were 62 deaths of children under 5 years; of these, 57 failed to survive the first year, and of these, 38 failed to survive the first month; 33 died in the first week. The causes of death are given below :—

| Cause of Death.  |     |     |     | Days.<br>0—7 | Weeks.<br>1—4 | Months.<br>1—12 | Years.<br>1—4 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Meningococcal infections                                 | ... |     |     | —            | —             | 3               | —             |
| Influenza  | ... | ... | ... | —            | —             | 1               | —             |
| Pneumonia  | ... | ... | ... | 2            | —             | 2               | —             |
| Bronchitis   | ... | ... | ... | —            | —             | 1               | —             |
| Congenital malformations                                 | ... |     |     | 6            | 4             | 9               | 1             |
| Intracranial and spinal injury at birth                  | ... | ... | ... | 3            | —             | —               | —             |
| Intracranial and spinal injury at birth, with immaturity | ... |     |     | 3            | —             | —               | —             |
| Post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis                      | ... | ... | ... | 5            | —             | —               | —             |
| Post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis, with immaturity     |     |     |     | 4            | —             | —               | —             |
| Asphyxia neonatorum with precipitate labour              | ... |     |     | 1            | —             | —               | —             |
| Umbilical sepsis   | ... | ... |     | 1            | —             | —               | —             |
| Infected exomphalos                                      | ... | ... |     | —            | 1             | —               | —             |
| Haemolytic diseases of newborn                           |     |     |     | 1            | —             | —               | —             |
| Perforated jejunum                                       | ... | ... |     | 1            | —             | —               | —             |
| Perforation of appendix with peritonitis                 | ... | ... | ... | —            | —             | —               | 1             |
| Immaturity   | ... | ... | ... | 5            | —             | —               | —             |
| Status lymphaticus                                       | ... | ... |     | —            | —             | 1               | —             |
| Mongol with broncho-pneumonia                            | ... | ... |     | —            | —             | 1               | —             |
| Tuberculous meningitis                                   | ... |     |     | —            | —             | —               | 1             |
| Open verdict on unknown body                             |     |     |     | 1            | —             | —               | —             |
| Motor vehicle accident                                   | ... |     |     | —            | —             | —               | 1             |
| Shock from scalds  | ... | ... |     | —            | —             | —               | 1             |
| Inhalation of regurgitated stomach content               | ... | ... |     | —            | —             | 1               | —             |
| Totals   |     |     |     | 33           | 5             | 19              | 5             |

**(g) Premature Infants.**

The premature baby nurse visits all premature infants in their homes, the frequency of her visits depending on their weight and condition; special cots and equipment are lent from the Health Department by the premature baby nurse.

All infants weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less born at home or in nursing homes are notified to the premature baby nurse on the day of birth. General practitioners usually arrange for babies weighing less than 4 lbs to be admitted to a premature baby unit at the Women's Hospital (Wolverhampton), Hallam Hospital (West Bromwich) or Sorrento Hospital (Birmingham) and special equipment is kept at the ambulance depot for use in transporting them.

During the year, 165 babies were born alive weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs or less to mothers normally resident in Wolverhampton and 148 of them survived 28 days. Of these 165 babies, 57 were born at home, 8 in private nursing homes and 100 in National Health Service hospitals; 20 of the babies born at home were transferred subsequently to hospital and the remaining 37 were nursed entirely at home.

The birth weight (column I) of all premature babies born alive at home (column II), the number of these nursed entirely at home (column III) and the number surviving 28 days (column IV) are shown in the following table :—

| I.                           | II. | III. | IV. |
|------------------------------|-----|------|-----|
| 3 lbs. 4 ozs.                | 8   | 1    | 3   |
| 3 lbs. 4 ozs.—4 lbs. 6 ozs.  | 11  | 3    | 10  |
| 4 lbs. 6 ozs.—4 lbs. 15 ozs. | 7   | 6    | 7   |
| 4 lbs. 15 ozs.—5 lbs. 8 ozs. | 31  | 27   | 31  |
|                              | 57  | 37   | 51  |

35 of the 37 babies nursed entirely at home, and 7 of the 8 babies born in private nursing homes survived the first 28 days.

The premature baby nurse paid 1,209 visits to babies born at home and to babies discharged from hospital or nursing homes.

No case of retrolental fibroplasia was notified.

#### **(h) Illegitimate Children.**

There were 150 illegitimate children born alive during the year; there were also 5 illegitimate still births. This total of 155 illegitimate live and still births represents 6.7 per cent of all live and still births. The local authority continues to make grants to the Legge Home and the Hay Home of £246 and £50 respectively. When required, patients are admitted to Diocesan Moral Welfare or Roman Catholic or Salvation Army Homes; necessary financial assistance is provided to meet the charges.

During the year the help of the Health Department was sought in 74 cases (52 being new cases) and 21 of them were accommodated in mother and baby homes.

#### **(i) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

Three cases were notified by general practitioners. In two cases the child had been born in hospital. All recovered.

#### **(j) Supply of Welfare Foods.**

Dispensaries are attached to Lea Road and Park Lane clinics at opposite ends of the town where proprietary brands of infant foods and nutrients are obtainable if they have been prescribed.

At the end of the year the distribution centres for welfare foods in Wolverhampton comprised the main centre at the Health Department, all clinics, 10 shops in various parts of the borough where the proprietors granted facilities, and the Community Centre at Low Hill.

At the end of the year the staff consisted of the organiser, one assistant and 5 part-time workers.



Below is a summary of the issues made during each quarter of the year :—

| Quarter ended. | National dried milk. Tins. | Cod liver oil. Bottles | A. & D. tablets. Packets. | Orange juice. Bottles. | Total.  |
|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| 31.3.57        | 24,721                     | 4,755                  | 2,352                     | 29,058                 | 60,886  |
| 30.6.57        | 19,274                     | 3,652                  | 2,180                     | 33,962                 | 59,068  |
| 30.9.57        | 18,985                     | 3,410                  | 2,028                     | 31,244                 | 55,667  |
| 31.12.57       | 17,540                     | 3,752                  | 1,859                     | 22,184                 | 45,335  |
| Total for 1957 | 80,520                     | 15,569                 | 8,419                     | 116,448                | 220,956 |
| Total for 1956 | 104,309                    | 17,769                 | 8,887                     | 110,819                | 241,784 |

#### (k) Dental Care.

The Principal Dental Officer reports that during the year the priority dental service for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children continued to be provided by the authority's dental officers devoting a part of their time to these patients. The equivalent of 339 half days was spent on their work, again showing a small increase. The additional evening sessions instituted in the previous year continued to be popular with many patients who find it more convenient to attend at a time when their husbands are at home to take charge of the family.

The service for pre-school children is provided on request and although all forms of treatment are available the demand is in the main for the relief of toothache.

The following were provided with dental care :—

|          | Examined. | Needing treatment. | Treated. | Made dentally fit. |
|----------|-----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Mothers  | 296       | 296                | 262      | 139                |
| Children | 557       | 552                | 550      | 2                  |

The following forms of dental treatment were provided :—

|                           | Mothers. | Children. |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Scaling and gum treatment | 116      | 1         |
| Fillings                  | 380      | 22        |
| Silver nitrate treatment  | 5        | 31        |
| Extractions               | 1,645    | 956       |
| General anaesthetics      | 137      | 530       |
| Dentures provided :—      |          |           |
| Full upper or lower       | 118      | —         |
| Partial upper or lower    | 103      | —         |
| Radiographs               | 114      | —         |

### (1) Day Nurseries.

The day nurseries at Bushbury Road and Birmingham Road have accommodation for 75 children and 40 children respectively, and both provide facilities for the training of nursery students for the Certificate of the Nursery Nurses Examination Board.

The charge is 2/- each day for children in the priority group, which includes the children of widows, widowers, unmarried mothers and separated or divorced parents, and children from families in which the mother is ill, the father unemployed, incapacitated or in the Forces. The charges for other cases, which are admitted with the consent of the Health Committee, vary with the means of the parents, with a maximum of 8/- a day.

The following is a summary of the attendances at the nurseries during the year.

|   | Bushbury<br>Road. | Birmingham<br>Road. |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| Number of days open                       | 251               | 251                 |
| Attendances under 2 years                 | 3,700             | 2,182               |
| Attendances 2—5 years                     | 6,660             | 5,637               |
| Average daily attendance<br>under 2 years | 14.7              | 8.7                 |
| Average daily attendance<br>2—5 years     | 26.5              | 22.5                |

The average daily attendances of all ages at Bushbury Road was 41.3 and at Birmingham Road was 31.2; in the previous year these figures were 41.9 and 30.4 respectively. During the past four years the total attendances at the two day nurseries have been stationary, but the distribution between them has shown a gradual change; in 1954, the year after Birmingham Road was re-opened 62% of the attendance was at Bushbury Road and 38% at Birmingham Road; in 1957, four years later, 57% were at Bushbury Road and 43% at Birmingham Road.

The average cost of day nurseries per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales in the year 1956/57 was £85 9s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £94 12s. 0d.

## **2. Midwifery.**

### **(a) General Provisions.**

During the year, 3,730 confinements took place in the borough; of these 1,209 were in the mother's home, 2,175 were in Hospital Management Committee's institutions and 346 in private nursing homes.

Notifications of intention to practise midwifery in Wolverhampton were received from :—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| (i) Midwives in Management Committee's institutions          | 29 |
| (ii) Municipal midwives                                      | 21 |
| (iii) Domiciliary midwives (private)                         | 1  |
| (iv) Midwives in private nursing homes                       | 3  |
| (v) Maternity nurses in the Queen Victoria Nursing Institute | 11 |

Supervision is exercised by the Senior Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare in her capacity as Medical Supervisor, and by the Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives.



**(b) Municipal Midwives.**

At the end of the year the staff consisted of the non-medical supervisor, 20 midwives and a premature baby nurse. The midwives attended 1,041 cases as midwives and 166 cases as maternity nurses, the doctor being present at 13.8 per cent of deliveries. Altogether 29,364 visits were paid by midwives to women delivered at home including 5,987 ante-natal visits; in addition 693 patients discharged from hospital before the fourteenth day received 3,365 visits during the remainder of the lying-in period. Medical aid was sought by municipal midwives in 250 cases comprising 18 patients during pregnancy, 145 patients during labour, 37 patients after the birth, and 50 infants (in 18 cases immediately after birth).

All municipal midwives are trained to administer analgesia and every midwife has apparatus for administering trilene. The "Minnit" gas and air apparatus also is used and is transported to the patient's home and subsequently collected after use by the central ambulance depot. Trilene was administered to 827 patients (69% of confinements attended by municipal midwives) gas and air was administered to 181 patients (15% of confinements) and pethidine was administered to 775 patients (64% of confinements). Compared with the previous year, the changes are an increase in the proportion of patients receiving pethidine from 46% to 64%, an increase in the proportion receiving triline from 21% to 69% and a decrease in the proportion receiving gas and air from 41% to 15%.

Municipal midwives deliver about five cases each month and they attend the ante-natal clinics in their area to book and examine their patients, so that each patient meets not only the midwife who probably will look after her but also the relief midwife; in addition the midwife visits the patient's home at least twice, once early in pregnancy to ascertain that it is suitable for a domiciliary confinement, and again later in pregnancy to confirm that adequate arrangements have been made. Expectant mothers seeking admission to hospital on social grounds apply to the Health Department

and subsequently they are visited in their homes by a midwife who reports on the conditions and circumstances; the reports are considered by the medical and non-medical Supervisors who then select those most urgently needing the available hospital accommodation.

Four classes are held each week for instruction of the expectant mother by a midwife and a health visitor. At the same time the patients receive instruction in relaxation from a physiotherapist. The classes are held at Lea Road (twice weekly), Ward Street and, since May, at Park Lane; 415 mothers made 2,799 attendances.

Chest X-ray examinations carried out by the mass radiography unit are available for all expectant mothers.

Four midwives attended refresher courses during the year. No arrangements exist in Wolverhampton for providing pupil midwives with Part II training but the hospitals and the local authority still hope to be able to provide this in the near future, as the alterations in the maternity wards at New Cross Hospital, a prerequisite to recognition for training, have now started.

The average expenditure on domiciliary midwifery per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs in England and Wales for 1956-57 the last year for which statistics are available, was £85 7s. 0d. In Wolverhampton the expenditure was £108 18s. 0d. This figure, substantially above the average, is due to the unusually high proportion of domiciliary confinements (for which the local health authority is responsible), and the corresponding unusually low proportion of institutional confinements (for which the hospital service is responsible). This is confirmed by comparing the average cost per maternity case attended in all County Boroughs, £12 19s. 0d., with the cost per case in Wolverhampton, £11 17s. 0d.

### **3. Health Visitors.**

The establishment is a Superintendent and 16 Health Visitors. At the end of the year the staff consisted of a Superintendent, 13 Health Visitors and two Clinic Nurses; one pupil was attending a



course of training at Birmingham. One health visitor and one clinic nurse were attached to the Chest Clinic and devoted their entire time to the patients attending the Clinic and their contacts. In addition to instructing and advising mothers at the ante-natal and infant welfare sessions, and visiting expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age, the health visitors undertake many other duties. These include visiting cases of infectious disease, patients discharged from hospital and in need of after-care and elderly people who may require domestic and other assistance in the home. They stress the importance of immunisation and vaccination, they co-operate with hospitals and general practitioners by furnishing relevant details of home conditions and ensuring that advice and treatment are carried out. Particular attention is given to families presenting a social problem. Many visits were paid to young workers taking part in the Medical Research Council's B.C.G. investigation, and much time was put in on sessions devoted to poliomyelitis vaccination.

Details of the visits made during 1957 are given below :—

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Expectant mothers                | 153                |
| Children under one               | 8,233              |
| Children aged one and under two  | 5,274              |
| Children aged two and under five | 9,017              |
| Tuberculous households           | 2,583              |
| Other cases                      | 2,097              |
| Total visits                     | <hr/> 27,357 <hr/> |

In addition, health visitors attended 2,695 half-day sessions at the clinics.

During the course of the year, health visitors entered 21,153 households (i.e. 46% of all households in the borough) and they visited 9,857 children under 5 years of age.

Two health visitors attended refresher courses during the year.

A health visitor is present at the Royal Hospital each week when the paediatrician does a ward round.



The average cost of health visiting per 1,000 population for the 83 County Boroughs of England and Wales in the year 1956/57 was £71 13s. 0d.; in Wolverhampton it was £61 13s. 0d.

#### 4. Home Nursing.

At the end of the year, the staff consisted of a superintendent, 11 full-time state registered nurses, 2 full-time state enrolled assistant nurses and 6 part-time state registered nurses.

All general practitioners in the area use the service; they either telephone to the superintendent informing her of the patients' requirements, or leave a note with relatives instructing them to deliver it to the Health Department. When a patient about to be discharged from hospital will require nursing treatment after returning home, the hospital almoner usually notifies the home nurses in advance. The number of new cases attended by the nurses, 1,442, was slightly less than in the previous year and the total number of visits was also slightly less. A summary of the work of the nurses is given below :—

| Cases on Register<br>at 1.1.57 | New<br>Cases. | Total<br>Visits | Cases on Register<br>at 31.12.57 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 226                            | 1,442         | 40,715          | 254                              |

The nature and number of the cases and the number of visits they received were :—

| Cases.                    | Number. | Visits. |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| Medical                   | 1,145   | 30,319  |
| Surgical                  | 231     | 5,745   |
| Infectious                | 2       | 9       |
| Tuberculous               | 97      | 4,088   |
| Maternity (Complications) | 2       | 19      |
| Other                     | 191     | 535     |
| Total                     | 1,668   | 40,715  |

Children under 5 years of age (1.6% of all patients) received 0.5% of all visits with an average of 7 visits a case; patients between 5 and 64 years of age ((39% of all patients) received 33% of all visits with an average of 21 visits a case; patients of 65 years of age and over (59% of all patients) received 66% of all visits with an average of 27 visits a case.

In the last 4 years the number of children visited by the home nurses has fallen substantially resulting in children declining from 8% to less than 2% of all patients; this change probably is associated with the increasing administration of penicillin by mouth instead of by injections given by home nurses. The rapid decline in the number of visits paid to tuberculous patients continued during the year, when the visits numbered little more than half of what they were the year before; in 1955 these visits numbered 12,923, while in 1957 they were 4,088.

Much of the work of the home nurses involves the administration of drugs by injection and during the year they made 13,093 visits to give injections to 475 patients. The largest group of injections, 5,003, were of insulin given to 65 patients; the next largest group, 4,107, were of streptomycin given to 101 patients; and the remaining 3,983 injections given to 309 patients consisted largely of antibiotic, diuretic and vitamin drugs.

In the financial year 1956-57, the last year for which collective figures are available, the home nursing service in Wolverhampton cost £64 18s. per thousand population; the average for the 83 county boroughs in England and Wales was £119 19s.

## **5. Vaccination and Immunisation.**

### **(a) Vaccination against Smallpox.**

During the year 995 persons were vaccinated and 75 re-vaccinated. Of those vaccinated, 894 were under one year old, and of those re-vaccinated 66 were 15 years old and over. Medical officers of the local authority carried out 509 of the 1,070 vaccinations and revaccinations.

There were 2,264 infants born alive during the year and the 894 vaccinations under one year old represented 39% of these births.

**(b) Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

A total of 1,727 children were immunised against diphtheria during the year. Private practitioners carried out 532 of the immunisations and 1,195 were done by medical officers of the local authority in schools, clinics and day nurseries. In addition, reinforcing doses were given to 2,336 children mostly in schools. The estimated percentage of the child population immunised against diphtheria is :—

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| (i) under one year old | 38%   |
| (ii) 1—4 years old     | 53.9% |
| (iii) 5—14 years old   | 68.8% |
| (iv) Total, under 15   | 63.9% |

**(c) Immunisation against Whooping Cough.**

This is available at all clinics where 917 children received it. A further 338 children are known to have been immunised by general practitioners.

**(d) B.C.G. Vaccination.**

During the year B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis was offered to all 13 year old pupils in grammar schools and secondary modern schools. Consent forms were issued to the parents of 2,589 children; there were 2,062 acceptances (80%) and of these 1,650 were X-rayed and 1,373 vaccinated.

Those not vaccinated numbered 689 and comprised :—

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| contacts               | 51  |
| absentees              | 248 |
| unsuitable for testing | 31  |
| positive Mantoux tests | 283 |
| not read               | 76  |
|                        | —   |
|                        | 689 |
|                        | —   |



At Dr. Aspin's request 101 contacts, who are included in the above figures, were all X-rayed and Mantoux tested prior to being referred to the Chest Clinic, where B.C.G. vaccination was given under his supervision to suitable cases.

In addition, two absentee sessions were held when 432 absentees from 1956 and 1957 were examined and of these 285 were vaccinated bringing the total number of vaccinations in 1957 by local authority medical officers to 1,658.

In connection with B.C.G. vaccination, 1,650 pupils aged 13 years had X-ray examinations and 15 were found to have abnormal X-rays.

During 1957 the entire staff and pupils of one school were X-rayed by the Mass Radiography Unit; two children were found to have primary foci and are still under review, although in neither case was it necessary for the child to be away from school. Three 13 year old children were known to be away from school with tuberculosis during 1957.

In addition to the vaccination offered to school leavers 550 contacts were examined under the hospital service. Of these, 424 had negative skin tests of whom 358 were subsequently vaccinated.

#### **(e) Poliomyelitis Vaccination.**

During the year the scheme introduced in the previous year was extended to cover all children born in the years 1947 to 1956 inclusive.

The number of children registered for vaccination since the inception of the scheme increased during the year from 3,969 to 8,798; the number of children fully vaccinated during the year was 2,893, bringing the total of such children up to 3,242. In addition, 3,615 had received the first injection, and at the end of the year were awaiting the second.

## **6. Ambulance Service.**

The service has a staff of 33 and a fleet of 18 vehicles consisting of 14 ambulances, 3 sitting case cars and a mortuary van. The number of calls, 40,831 was 1% less than in the previous year, and the total mileage showed a decrease of 7.8%. Of the total calls 2.9% were to accidents and 2.4% to emergencies.

## **7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.**

### **(a) Tuberculosis.**

Chest physicians are employed jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the Town Council; the latter pay a portion of their salaries equivalent to 4/11ths of the salary of one chest physician. In pursuance of their duties relating to the prevention of tuberculosis, the chest physicians are concerned with the welfare of contacts, and arrangements exist whereby they can administer B.C.G. vaccine. In addition, many children are vaccinated by the paediatrician. School leavers are offered vaccination and 1,373 were vaccinated during the year by the medical staff of the health department.

Although the effects of tuberculosis on the life of the patient and his family are neither so far-reaching nor so prolonged as in the days before modern treatment, the illness is still a long-term one which produces many and varied problems. The After-care Officer, co-operating with the staff of the Chest Clinic and the tuberculosis visitors, tries to help those who have to face these problems, which may be retarding recovery, to solve them for themselves.

An increasing proportion of time now is given to these who have become fit to take up suitable work. During the past year in Wolverhampton it has not been so easy to find employment and many patients have to wait longer than previously for a job. Nearly all were successful eventually and of the 114 patients referred in 1957 as being fit for work, 17 had not been placed by the end of the year; of these, 2 were still at Ministry of Labour Training Centres and one was ill again, leaving a remainder of only 14. Of



the 99 referred in 1956 there were 5 remaining unplaced at the end of 1957; of these, 2 were ill again, one was still at a Training Centre and one had married and was no longer looking for paid employment, leaving still unplaced only one wanting work. Those who remain unplaced or have to wait a long time before finding a job usually are older men with some additional disability such as bronchitis or pneumoconiosis.

The majority of patients remain at work until they are well established; the progress of 64 of the 73 patients placed in 1955 has been traced for a period of two years, and only 13 of them were not at work; 4 had married and were no longer seeking paid employment and of the remaining 9 one died.

The majority of patients now become fit for work a few months after being discharged from sanatorium but there remain those who require much more prolonged treatment or who are chronic cases with little hope of returning to work, and the apparently endless months or years at home tend to depress these patients and their near relatives. A development in the last year or two which helps these patients is the organisation by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis of a scheme to arrange holidays for them, usually at the seaside. In 1957, 5 patients benefitted from the scheme and 4 of them were accompanied by near relatives, who needed the holiday as much as the patients. The cost was covered by the health department with the co-operation in one case of the patient's Trade Union and Friendly Society.

The Occupational therapy class also continues to help these patients and others for whom it acts as a stepping-stone between discharge from sanatorium and return to work.

During the year the After-care Officer dealt with 353 cases; free milk was allowed in 103, financial help was obtained for 96, clothing grants for 49, bed and bedding grants for 20, reports on the housing conditions were made in 53 cases, holidays or convalescence were arranged for 7 cases, 11 cases attended the occupational therapy class and many other cases received various forms of help and assistance.



A further generous donation of £105 has been received from the "Joe Birch Memorial Cup" fund and paid into the Wolverhampton Voluntary Fund for Tuberculosis. Food parcels were again distributed at Christmas and James Beattie Limited gave books which were distributed to the children of needy families.

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The report of the Chest Physician, Dr. J. Aspin, on pulmonary tuberculosis in Wolverhampton and the adjoining Staffordshire areas during 1957 follows:—

The experience of the past few years has shown that we now have it in our power to control pulmonary tuberculosis. Newspaper comment, and reports of closure of long established sanatoria, might suggest to some that the disease has already been controlled. This is far from the truth.

In the Wolverhampton area, during recent years, the numbers of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been as follows—1954—260; 1955—245; 1956—272; 1957—254. This industrial area still breeds cases of gross infectious disease which if undetected can create havoc in the family circle or at school or in working places. Only a few months ago, tuberculosis found in a child led to examination of the family. The mother, who thought she "only had bronchitis" was an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis, two other children had also to be admitted to hospital, and the baby five weeks old narrowly escaped tuberculous meningitis.

There are still too many unknown infectious cases in our midst, especially among middle-aged and older men. There are still too many household contacts who stubbornly refuse to be X-rayed. There are still too many partly treated cases compelled to be a burden to their families. What is the Chest Service doing about all this?

#### CASE FINDING.

Firstly, let us review the case-finding machinery. Two thirds of the year's new cases (168/254) had originally attended their private practitioners' surgeries. Nearly half of these (91/168) were

sent on by their doctors for X-ray Exclusion of Tuberculosis to the weekly Mass Radiography Sessions at New Cross Hospital (where 5224 other doctors' suspects were also X-rayed during the year, with the discovery of a substantial amount of other chest trouble, including lung carcinoma). Clearly, local practitioners have made full and profitable use of their free access to X-ray diagnostic facilities.

At Chest (Medical) Out-Patient Sessions at The Royal Hospital and at New Cross Hospital, the chest physicians assessed the abnormal cases found in the above way, together with directly referred cases (yielding another 31 tuberculosis sufferers). They also saw the persons referred by other hospital consultants (46 new cases from this source). In addition they also dealt with 31 cases found by the Contact Service (23 first X-rayed at the MMR unit, 8 first seen at Dr. Everley Jones' Royal Hospital Clinic for child contacts under the age of 5). The remaining new cases (apart from 7 who came out of the Armed Forces with the disease) first came to notice as a result of MMR public sessions (19), visits to factories etc. (13), and during MMR surveys of small special groups (16). Among the latter, 5 antenatal cases were found to be tuberculous. All five were successfully treated before their babies were born.

The Mass Radiography Service has thus nobly played its part during the year as the "long arm" of the Chest Service, being connected with 162 of the 254 new cases. But it is becoming increasingly clear that, as compared with its activities in receiving patients from doctors' surgeries (almost two new tuberculosis cases per 100 X-rayed), its visits to factories and offices are relatively unproductive (less than two cases per 1,000).

#### *TREATMENT.*

To-day treatment of infectious cases constitutes the best form of prevention. There is now no delay in admission to hospital, where treatment far more effective than anything possible at home can at once be instituted. Rest and drug treatment with streptomycin, PAS and isoniazid will make most new patients non-infectious within a few months, and often fit enough to return to



work within a year. Pneumothorax or pneumoperitoneum treatment is now outmoded, and far fewer cases require time-consuming surgical treatment. A new advance is that even extremely acute forms of disease can be brought swiftly under control when cortisone is added to the standard drug regime. Also the persistently infectious cases from years gone by seem to be responding to a gratifying extent under long continued antibacterial treatment. No longer do they remain infectious for years. Of the 282 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis infectious in 1955, at the end of 1957 42 have died, 192 are sputum negative, and only 41 (15%) have been found sputum positive during 1957. 16 of these seem likely to improve with further treatment, leaving a hard core of 25, (9% of the 1955 total) unlikely to respond to treatment. Among these stubbornly positive cases, there is an excess of chronic cases diagnosed before 1954.

With more effective treatment of new cases, this hard core of persistently infectious persons should steadily be whittled away.

#### **PREVENTION.**

##### **(a) Contact Review.**

The screening and subsequent review of tuberculosis contacts has in Wolverhampton and in part of the adjoining Staffordshire area been put into the hands of specially trained tuberculosis health visitors. These special visitors cover relatively large areas. Their ever-growing knowledge of family connections, the ease with which they can daily make contact with chest clinic personnel and records, attend hospital contact clinics, and take part in 'flying' campaigns such as the one recently necessary when it was found that a temporary midwife might have contracted tuberculosis, all these things in this area with its high prevalence of tuberculosis, fully justify their special employment. In all, 31 contacts were recognised as tuberculous during the year, well over the one-per-ten newly notified cases accepted as the standard level.

All praise is due to them for their keenness in persisting with their household visiting (which must often seem fruitless and discouraging) until they eventually secure the desired attendances. They work in the background; few people even know about their good works, let alone thank them.



*(b) B.C.G. Vaccination.*

Health visitors have arranged for the protective BCG vaccination of 614 household tuberculosis contacts during the year. BCG vaccination of 13—14 year old school children has also been carried out by the School Medical Service, 1,658 children being protected in this way during 1957.

**REHABILITATION.**

Now that so many patients can be made sputum negative and fit for work, rehabilitation has become a pressing problem. Local efforts and successes in this field were particularly fully described in last year's report. In this neighbourhood, the tragic loss of working man-power through tuberculosis among the young adult population is steadily being diminished. It is still very hard, however, to find suitable employment for the older tuberculosis sufferers who have previously done nothing but heavy industrial work.

**SUMMARY.**

By the measures described above, we are beginning to drain the dangerous pool of infection which has lain for so long in our midst. Within a few years there should be a considerable fall in the prevalence of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis among our young adult population.

But it must be remembered that during 1957 and for some years previously, more than half of the new male cases have occurred not in young adults but in males above the age of 45. Many years of unremitting effort lie ahead in the preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic fields before older males of this and subsequent decades can be freed from risk.

In this area, tuberculosis is controllable, but not yet controlled.

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**(b) Other Illness.**

The work with non-tuberculosis patients still consists chiefly of arranging for admission to convalescent homes under the health

department's recuperative holidays scheme; the patients contribute towards the cost according to their means. Details of cases dealt with during 1957 are as follows :—

|                                       |            |       |       |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------|-------|
| Applications received                 |            |       | 85    |
| Sent to convalescent homes            | Adults 72  |       |       |
|                                       | Children 3 | 75    |       |
|                                       |            | <hr/> |       |
| Referred to Patient's Aid Association |            | 1     |       |
| Too ill to go                         |            | 4     |       |
| Died before vacancy obtained          |            | 1     |       |
| No suitable vacancy found             |            | 1     |       |
| Withdrew application                  |            | 3     | 85    |
|                                       |            | <hr/> | <hr/> |

A supply of equipment is available for lending to patients nursed at home, who are required to pay a deposit which is refunded on the return of the equipment in good condition. During the year, equipment was provided for 506 patients nursed at home.

### 8. Domestic Help.

At the end of the year there were 11 whole time and 49 half time workers, and in addition 2 part time workers employed for two hours daily; this staff represents an increase of one whole time and 11 half time workers in a year. The 684 cases assisted by the home helps during the year comprised :—

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Maternity (including expectant mothers)  | 80  |
| Tuberculosis                             | 2   |
| Chronic Sick (including aged and infirm) | 423 |
| Others                                   | 179 |

The organiser investigates the conditions in every case before domestic help is sent and subsequently she pays weekly visits: during the year she paid 2,234 visits. In January 264 patients classed as "chronic sick" were receiving regular weekly help and the number had increased to 309 by December. Most of them are enabled to continue living in their own homes by the domestic help which they receive. They are encouraged to undertake some of the lighter

duties themselves, although this increases the burden on the individual home help who is left with the heaviest and dirtiest work in every household where often there are no labour-saving devices or even household equipment.

During August, 15 home helps passed the Electrical Association for Women's Examination for Home Workers, and 43 past and present members of the service have now taken this examination, all of them attending the course of training during their own free time.

In the financial year 1956—1957, the last year for which collective figures are available, the domestic help service in Wolverhampton cost £61 13s. per thousand population; the average for the 83 county boroughs in England and Wales was £116 5s.

## **9. Health Education.**

An annual contribution of £80 is made to the Central Council for Health Education and one of five guineas to the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Poster boards in various parts of the town are used for the display of topics supplied by the Central Council for Health Education. Pamphlets prepared by the Central Council on a variety of subjects including measles, influenza and common colds are distributed in the clinics. The parents of all school leavers are advised of the desirability of accepting B.C.G. vaccination when it is necessary.

Copies of the pamphlet setting out statements by the Medical Research Council concerning smoking and cancer of the lung were issued to all head teachers, and School Medical Officers were encouraged to advise during medical inspections on the dangers of tobacco smoking.

Health education is one of the chief duties of health visitors who constantly advise mothers on the management, feeding and clothing of children, the dangers of accidents, and the importance of protecting children against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis.



The dangers of food poisoning and the importance of food storage and food preparation continue to be stressed in talks given by members of the staff to various organisations in the town.

## **10. Mental Health.**

### **(a) Administration.**

The Health (Mental Health) Sub-Committee meets monthly and delegates no duties to voluntary associations. Statistical information is placed before the Committee, reports on individual mental defectives are dealt with but no individual reports are received on cases of mental illness.

The staff of the Health Department includes one female and two male mental health officers who are all duly authorised to take initial proceedings for providing care and treatment for persons suffering from mental illness. The female officer also deals with the administration of the Mental Deficiency Acts, and the male officers, one a former relieving officer and the other a state registered nurse and state registered mental nurse, undertake the after-care of patients who have been mentally ill. The Occupation Centre, now known as the Special Training Centre, has a staff of one Supervisor, five assistants, a domestic assistant and a caretaker. A panel of general practitioners is used for domiciliary visits and for the completion of medical certificates for petitions under the Mental Deficiency Acts and for renewal orders.

Co-operation with the hospital authorities has progressed. The central allocation by the Regional Hospital Board of institutional vacancies for mental defectives works smoothly and during the year 3 males under 16 years of age, one male over 16 years of age and 3 females over 16 years of age were admitted to permanent vacancies; temporary vacancies were found for 5 females under 16 years of age, 3 males under 16 years of age and 2 females over 16 years of age. Consultant psychiatrists from St. George's Hospital, Stafford, now attend twice weekly the out-patient Psychiatric Clinic at New Cross Hospital where they are responsible also for the medical supervision of patients admitted

on statutory observation orders. The consultants call upon the service of the mental health officers at out-patient clinics and readily make themselves available to advise these officers. The proportion of three day orders subsequently extended to 14 days on the advice of a consultant has been markedly increased and with the institution of treatment during this observation period it has been found possible to reduce the number of patients admitted to mental hospitals. The regular attendance of consultants at New Cross Hospital also has made it possible to give more active out-patient treatment to people who otherwise might have been admitted to St. George's Hospital, Stafford, which is too far away for many of them to visit as out-patients; this arrangement has to some extent relieved the severe shortage of mental hospital beds in the area. Fortnightly discussions are held at St. George's Hospital between the hospital staff and mental health officers of local authorities using the hospital.

**(b) Work undertaken in the Community.**

**(i) Mental Treatment.**

Under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act mental health officers either interviewed in the Health Department or visited in their homes 504 people who had been referred to them by general practitioners or by other departments, or who came direct to the mental health officers seeking help and advice. These officers also paid 194 visits to former mental hospital patients and 17 were being visited regularly at the end of the year.

During the year 128 Wolverhampton residents (56 male and 72 female) were admitted for observation to New Cross Hospital, a decline of 23 patients on 1956; of these, 23 were discharged at the expiration of the statutory three days, 66 were detained for a further 14 days and subsequently discharged, while 19 became voluntary patients, 4 temporary patients and 16 were certified as being of unsound mind and admitted to a mental hospital. A further 3 persons (2 male and one female) were admitted to New Cross Hospital on a Justice's Order (Section 21, Lunacy Act 1890) and all were later certified as of unsound mind and transferred to



a mental hospital. Nine persons (one male and 8 female) were admitted for observation to St. George's Hospital, Stafford, and of these, one was certified, two were discharged and 6 accepted voluntary treatment. In addition 10 persons (8 male and 2 female) were certified in their own homes and received into a mental hospital. The total number of certified patients received into mental hospitals was 33 (20 male and 13 female).

During the year 54 certified patients (28 male and 26 female) were discharged from mental hospitals. Of the 28 male patients, 16 were discharged to voluntary status, 10 were discharged relieved and 2 died ; while of the 26 female patients 12 were discharged to voluntary status, 8 were discharged relieved, one was discharged recovered and 5 died.

Voluntary admissions were 50% higher than in 1956 ; 194 persons (87 male and 107 female) submitted themselves for voluntary treatment and of these, 156 were discharged (106 relieved, 32 recovered, 17 not improved and one died). It is interesting to note that of the 194 persons admitted, 20 were re-admitted during the year and 24 had received previous treatment. The total number of voluntary patients discharged during the year was 189 (85 male and 104 female) while 110 were still undergoing treatment. At the end of the year 471 Wolverhampton residents were known to be receiving treatment in mental hospitals.

As the Wolverhampton hospitals cater for an area extending far beyond the County Borough limits, duly authorised officers are required to institute proceedings under the Lunacy Act for persons not resident in the County Borough who may be patients within the hospitals or who have been brought there for emergency reasons, for instance following attempted suicide. These patients are not included in the figures already given for the County Borough and comprised 19 persons who were admitted for observation to New Cross Hospital of whom 13 were detained on 14-day detention orders and later discharged, 5 who were certified of unsound mind and transferred to a mental hospital and one patient who died. In addition, 3 non-residents were admitted by the duly authorised officers for observation in St. George's Mental Hospital, Stafford.



Age group analyses of the 128 patients admitted to observation wards and the 194 voluntary patients are given in the two following tables :—

**Age Group Analysis of Patients Admitted to  
Observation Wards.**

| Sex    | 16-19<br>yrs. | 20-29<br>yrs. | 30-39<br>yrs. | 40-49<br>yrs. | 50-59<br>yrs. | 60-69<br>yrs. | 70-79<br>yrs. | Over<br>80 yrs. | All<br>Ages. |
|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Male   | 3             | 8             | 13            | 10            | 9             | 10            | 2             | 1               | 56           |
| Female | —             | 10            | 15            | 10            | 16            | 9             | 11            | 1               | 72           |
| Total  | 3             | 18            | 28            | 20            | 25            | 19            | 13            | 2               | 128          |

**Age Group Analysis of Voluntary Patients.**

| Sex    | 16-19<br>yrs. | 20-29<br>yrs. | 30-39<br>yrs. | 40-49<br>yrs. | 50-59<br>yrs. | 60-69<br>yrs. | 70-79<br>yrs. | All Ages |
|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Male   | 4             | 11            | 19            | 23            | 15            | 10            | 5             | 87       |
| Female | 3             | 16            | 22            | 17            | 24            | 16            | 9             | 107      |
| Total  | 7             | 27            | 41            | 40            | 39            | 26            | 14            | 194      |

**(ii) Mental Deficiency.**

Under the Mental Deficiency Acts 42 mental defectives were notified during the year to the Local Health Authority. Five (4 male and 1 female) all under 16 years of age were placed under statutory supervision and 4 of these were admitted to the Occupation Centre. Special School leavers numbering 22 (5 male and 17 female) over the age of 16 years were placed under statutory supervision and of these, 4 were admitted to the Occupation Centre, one was unfit owing to ill-health to obtain work and the remaining 17 were all in work at the end of the year. Three cases were

admitted to hospital comprising 2 older women who could no longer be looked after in their own homes, and one male who was referred by the Court. The remaining 12 were placed under voluntary supervision, 5 of them (2 male and 3 female) under the age of 16 being admitted to the Occupation Centre, and 7 of them (6 male and one female) over 16 years, and including 6 Beckminster Special School leavers, were all working at the end of the year.

During the year 10 Orders under the Mental Deficiency Acts were discharged, 4 cases left the district, 4 cases died, 4 were admitted to institutions and the notifications in respect of 3 cases previously notified by the Local Education Authority for admission to the Occupation Centre were rescinded; one was admitted to the Special School, one was awaiting a vacancy in the Special School, and one was admitted to an epileptic colony.

The number of ascertained mental defectives known to the Health Department at the end of the year was 723 comprising the following :—

|                                 | Under 16 |    | Over 16 |     | Total |
|---------------------------------|----------|----|---------|-----|-------|
|                                 | M.       | F. | M.      | F.  |       |
| (i) Under Statutory Supervision | 21       | 18 | 117     | 161 | 317   |
| (ii) Under Guardianship         | —        | —  | 10      | 10  | 20    |
| (iii) In "Places of Safety"     | —        | —  | —       | —   | —     |
| (iv) In Hospitals               | 10       | 9  | 111     | 92  | 222   |
| (v) Under Voluntary Supervision | 12       | 21 | 70      | 61  | 164   |
| Total                           | 43       | 48 | 308     | 324 | 723   |

The number of ascertained mentally defective persons on the register at the 31st December 1957 was equivalent to 0.48 per cent of the population.

The Special Training School (as the Occupation Centre is now known) continues to satisfy a great need in the community care of the mentally defective. There were 89 on the register at

the end of the year (an increase of one) including 2 cases from outside the borough. Use is made when necessary of the School Health Services including the minor ailment clinic and the dental clinic, and a school nurse makes regular visits to the school.

Those attending are divided into 7 groups consisting of senior girls, senior boys, junior boys and girls, 2 classes of infants with 12 in each class, a nursery group of 8 and a spastic group including 4 chair cases. The school syllabus includes habit, speech and physical training, dancing, rhythmic work, music and art, sense training, and occupations of many kinds. Progressively planned handicrafts include basketry, rug making, needlework and embroidery. Good use is made of the projector and the film of the school's activities has been extended.

Most parents are co-operative and take a real interest in the children's progress. Two deaf children have been fitted with hearing aids ; 4 children have stayed at Rainhill short stay Home for 2 and 3 weeks ; 2 children had a fortnight's holiday at Grange-over-Sands ; senior children had a day's outing to Trentham Gardens ; a group of junior children spent a day at Dudley Zoo and all children either too young or incapacitated had a party at the school. All children also enjoyed a Christmas party.

Two students from Birmingham and one from Manchester who were attending diploma courses came to the school to receive their practical training. There have also been many visiting students to the school from teachers' training colleges and nursing courses ; other visitors included doctors, missionaries, and students from many parts of the world. Local schools, especially the Girls' High School, take an interest in the school and have been very generous with gifts of toys and books.

## **11. Care of the Aged and Infirm.**

The National Assistance Act provides for persons who, being seriously ill or being aged, infirm or incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to obtain proper care and attention. Action can be taken by the local authority if the



medical officer of health certifies that it is necessary to remove such persons either in their own interests or for preventing injury or serious nuisance to others.

During the year one certificate was given which related to a man aged 82, immobilised by an injury to his thigh, who was living alone in a house and who was neglected and emaciated. The Stipendiary Magistrate made an order for his removal.

## **12. Epileptics.**

Only 16 epileptics have registered under the Council's scheme under the National Assistance Act and they represent probably no more than five per cent of the epileptics in Wolverhampton. Seven epileptic children of school age are in special schools; several other epileptic children who do not need special education attend ordinary schools. Among mental defectives who are not in institutions 39 children are known to be epileptic and 9 of these attend the Occupation Centre.

## **13. Spastics.**

There is little information about the number of spastics in Wolverhampton and only 10 adults have registered under the Council's scheme. Spastics of school age include 5 attending a special school as day pupils, 4 at special boarding schools, one at a hospital school and one awaiting admission to a special school. In addition, a number of mild cases of spasticity presenting no special educational problem attend ordinary schools in the town. Some mental defectives have the additional disability of being spastic and in the class of mentally defective spastic children opened at the Occupation Centre there are now 12 children of whom 4 are chair cases; 2 of the spastics are also epileptics and are included in the figure for epileptics.

#### 14. Blind Persons.

The number of cases registered during the year was 33 blind and 6 partially sighted and the number of blind persons on the register at the end of the year was 344. Their age and sex distribution was :—

| Age Group.  | Males.     | Females.   | Total.     |
|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Age 3       | 1          | —          | 1          |
| 5— 9        | 2          | 2          | 4          |
| 10—14       | 2          | 2          | 4          |
| 15—19       | 5          | 1          | 6          |
| 20—29       | 5          | 1          | 6          |
| 30—39       | 11         | 10         | 21         |
| 40—49       | 20         | 15         | 35         |
| 50—59       | 15         | 14         | 29         |
| 60—64       | 12         | 21         | 33         |
| 65—69       | 21         | 12         | 33         |
| 70 and over | 76         | 96         | 172        |
|             | <u>170</u> | <u>174</u> | <u>344</u> |

The table shows that nearly 60% of the registered blind are aged 65 years and over and that 50% are aged 70 years or over.

The following table shows the number of cases registered during the year, the number of these in which treatment was recommended and the number who received it :—

| Cases Registered.         | Cause of Disability. |          |                         |        |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------|
|                           | Cataract             | Glaucoma | Retrolental Fibroplasia | Others |
| Total                     | 8                    | 3        | —                       | 28     |
| Recommended for Treatment | 6                    | 1        | —                       | 4      |
| Received Treatment        | 1                    | 1        | —                       | 2      |

### 15. Medical Examinations.

Medical examinations were carried out by the medical staff of the Health Department for the Transport, Fire Service and other Corporation Departments. The total number of examinations during 1957 was 559, comprising 449 males and 110 females. Of these, 361 (comprising 294 males and 57 females for the Transport Department, and 10 males for the Fire Service) took place during the period commencing 1st June 1957. A charge is made to the Transport Department and Fire Service for each examination performed, but no charge is made to other Corporation Departments.

## SECTION III.

### INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### 1. Incidence.

The corrected notifications per 1,000 population of certain infectious diseases in Wolverhampton during 1957 are appended :—

| Disease.                | Rate per 1,000 population.           |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever           | 0.53                                 |
| Whooping Cough          | 2.85                                 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis     |                                      |
| Paralytic               | 0.05                                 |
| Non-Paralytic           | 0.03                                 |
| Measles                 | 14.80                                |
| Dysentery               | 0.11                                 |
| Meningococcal infection | 0.01                                 |
| Pneumonia               | 1.15                                 |
| Erysipelas              | 0.14                                 |
| Food Poisoning          | 0.03                                 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia       | 0.49 or 31.9 per 1,000 total births. |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum   | 0.02                                 |

There were no cases of diphtheria, smallpox, acute encephalitis, paratyphoid, enteric or typhoid fever.

#### 2. Scarlet Fever.

There were 79 cases, four of which were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.



### **3. Whooping Cough.**

There were 427 notifications ; 5 cases were admitted to hospital, but there were no deaths.

### **4. Poliomyelitis.**

Of 11 cases notified (7 paralytic and 4 non-paralytic) 9 were admitted to hospital (6 paralytic and 3 non-paralytic). There were no deaths.

### **5. Measles.**

Notifications for the year numbered 2,218 compared with 248 during 1956 and 1,982 in 1955. No deaths occurred and only 11 cases were nursed in hospital.

### **6. Dysentery.**

Notifications were 17. No admittances to hospital and no deaths.

### **7. Meningococcal Infection.**

There was only one notified case which was nursed in hospital and recovered, but there were 3 deaths of un-notified cases under one year of age.

### **8. Pneumonia.**

There were 173 cases of pneumonia notified and there were 81 deaths but only eleven of these were amongst the notified cases.

### **9. Food Poisoning.**

The number of cases notified was 5 ; only one was nursed in hospital and there were no deaths.

### **10. Puerperal Pyrexia.**

The number of cases notified was 74 ; of these, 2 were patients confined in a nursing home, 4 were patients confined at home and 68 were patients confined in hospital.

### **11. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

There were 3 cases ; two were born in hospital and one at home. There was no apparent impairment of vision.

## **12. Miscellaneous.**

Among the miscellaneous cases notified were 21 cases of erysipelas.

## **13. Venereal Diseases.**

The treatment of these diseases is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board and facilities are provided at the Royal Hospital.

**Syphilis.** During the year 88 cases (44 males and 44 females) were dealt with for the first time : 5 of them were suffering from primary or secondary syphilis or latent syphilis in the first year of infection. Of these 88 cases, 74 were Wolverhampton residents. In addition, 2 Wolverhampton residents suffering from syphilis were dealt with for the first time at Dudley.

**Gonorrhoea.** There were 241 cases (199 males and 42 females) dealt with for the first time, and 174 of these were Wolverhampton residents. In addition 6 Wolverhampton residents suffering from gonorrhoea were dealt with for the first time at Dudley.

**Other Conditions.** The number of cases dealt with for the first time was 611 (426 males and 185 females), but 294 of them (194 males and 100 females) did not require treatment. In addition 12 Wolverhampton residents suffering from one of these other conditions were dealt with for the first time at Dudley.

## **14. Tuberculosis.**

The local health authority is responsible for measures designed to prevent tuberculosis, and they include advising the Housing Committee on the desirability of providing housing accommodation for families containing a tuberculous member, persuading all contacts of known cases to report for examination, the routine patch testing of all infants attending welfare centres and all school entrants, and B.C.G. vaccination of school leavers of whom over 1,650 were vaccinated during the year.

X-ray facilities readily available to general practitioners have continued to be valuable in ascertaining cases.

Since 1920 there have been continuous declines in both pulmonary and non-pulmonary death rates in Wolverhampton. In 1951 the death rate from all forms of tuberculosis had declined to 51 per 100,000, in 1955 it was 17, in 1956 it was 12, and in 1957 (with 17 deaths, 14 pulmonary and 3 non-pulmonary) it was 11 per 100,000 population.

### Notification.

| Year          | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Pulmonary     |      |      |      |      |      |
| Male          | 117  | 86   | 74   | 97   | 84   |
| Female        | 80   | 64   | 51   | 69   | 52   |
| Non-Pulmonary |      |      |      |      |      |
| Male          | 10   | 10   | 7    | 10   | 4    |
| Female        | 7    | 12   | 10   | 8    | 10   |
| Total         | 214  | 172  | 142  | 184  | 150  |

The cases remaining on the register at the end of 1957 were classified as follows :—

#### Pulmonary.

|        |              |
|--------|--------------|
| Male   | 665          |
| Female | 480          |
|        | <u>1,145</u> |

#### Non-Pulmonary.

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| Male   | 55         |
| Female | 64         |
|        | <u>119</u> |

### Deaths.

The deaths from tuberculosis in 1957 and the preceding 4 years are given below :—

| Year          | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Pulmonary     |      |      |      |      |      |
| Male          | 36   | 28   | 19   | 14   | 13   |
| Female        | 9    | 12   | 3    | 4    | 1    |
| Non-Pulmonary |      |      |      |      |      |
| Male          | 4    | 3    | 3    | 1    | 1    |
| Female        | —    | —    | 2    | —    | 2    |
| Total         | 49   | 43   | 27   | 19   | 17   |



Details of notifications and deaths are given below :—

| Age.      | NEW CASES   |        |                 |        | DEATHS      |        |                 |        |
|-----------|-------------|--------|-----------------|--------|-------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
|           | Respiratory |        | Non-Respiratory |        | Respiratory |        | Non-Respiratory |        |
|           | Male        | Female | Male            | Female | Male        | Female | Male            | Female |
| 0— 1      | —           | 1      | —               | —      | —           | —      | —               | —      |
| 1— 4      | 1           | 2      | —               | 2      | —           | —      | 1               | —      |
| 5—14      | 7           | 6      | 2               | 2      | —           | —      | —               | —      |
| 15—24     | 21          | 19     | —               | 4      | —           | —      | —               | 1      |
| 25—44     | 21          | 19     | 2               | 2      | 2           | —      | —               | —      |
| 45—64     | 22          | 3      | —               | —      | 6           | 1      | —               | —      |
| 65—74     | 9           | 2      | —               | —      | 4           | —      | —               | 1      |
| 75 & over | 3           | —      | —               | —      | 1           | —      | —               | —      |
| Totals    | 84          | 52     | 4               | 10     | 13          | 1      | 1               | 2      |

### 15. Cancer.

The number of deaths attributed to cancer and allied conditions was 315. The age and sex distribution of the cases was :—

| Age.        | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|-------------|-------|---------|--------|
| 0— 4        | —     | —       | —      |
| 5—14        | 4     | —       | 4      |
| 15—24       | 2     | 1       | 3      |
| 25—44       | 9     | 14      | 23     |
| 45—64       | 75    | 42      | 117    |
| 65—74       | 64    | 37      | 101    |
| 75 and over | 38    | 29      | 67     |
|             | 192   | 123     | 315    |

The sites of the disease were :—

|                                  | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|----------------------------------|-------|---------|--------|
| Tongue                           | 2     | 2       | 4      |
| Parotid Gland                    | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Mouth                            | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Nasopharynx                      | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Pharynx                          | 3     | —       | 3      |
| Oesophagus                       | 6     | 2       | 8      |
| Stomach                          | 29    | 16      | 45     |
| Small intestine                  | 2     | —       | 2      |
| Large intestine                  | 23    | 23      | 46     |
| Rectum                           | 16    | 5       | 21     |
| Gall bladder and liver (primary) | 1     | 2       | 3      |
| Liver (secondary)                | 2     | 1       | 3      |
| Pancreas                         | 4     | 4       | 8      |
| Peritoneum                       | —     | 1       | 1      |
| Gastro-intestinal tract          | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Antrum                           | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Larynx                           | 3     | —       | 3      |
| Lung and bronchus                | 57    | 11      | 68     |
| Mediastinum                      | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Breast                           | —     | 23      | 23     |
| Uterus                           | —     | 11      | 11     |
| Ovary                            | —     | 3       | 3      |
| Vulva                            | —     | 3       | 3      |
| Prostate                         | 8     | —       | 8      |
| Prepuce                          | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Kidney                           | 4     | 1       | 5      |
| Bladder                          | 6     | 1       | 7      |
| Brain                            | —     | 3       | 3      |
| Thyroid                          | —     | 1       | 1      |
| Carotid                          | 1     | —       | 1      |
| Bone                             | 1     | 2       | 3      |
| Other sites                      | 5     | 1       | 6      |
| Hodgkin's disease                | 1     | 1       | 2      |
| Reticulosis                      | —     | 1       | 1      |
| Multiple myeloma                 | 2     | 1       | 3      |
| Leukaemia                        | 9     | 4       | 13     |
| Totals                           | 192   | 123     | 315    |

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.**  
**F. Binns Hartley, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.**

Slum clearance continued in accordance with the Council's programme and work performed by the inspectorial staff in this direction again took priority over other duties. Although only 4 clearance areas involving 177 houses were declared, inspections were carried out of the properties in two major schemes, which will be represented in the new year. Good progress was made with both the displacement of persons from houses included in confirmed orders and the demolition of the houses vacated.

The Housing Act, 1957 came into operation on the 1st September and consolidates all the legislation affecting slum clearance with the exception of financial matters ; certain details of administration are modified but these do not materially affect the Council's programme.

The Rent Act, 1957 came into force on the 6th July ; its purpose is to replace the legislation previously existing which dealt with rent control. The onus of notifying the landlord of the defects which ought to be remedied having regard to the age, character and locality of the accommodation occupied now lies with the tenant. The completion of the necessary forms is not easy and it is felt that the whole procedure is complicated to the extent of deterring many tenants from making applications to the Council for certificates of disrepair, even though they are dissatisfied with the condition of the accommodation they occupy. It is too early to judge the effect of this new Act, but the number of applications received was far less than anticipated.

It is of interest to note that a scheme is now in operation for the payment of exchequer grants towards the cost of meat inspection. The purpose of these grants is to assist those local authorities who have hitherto been obliged to bear the full cost of meat inspection in slaughterhouses, although much of the meat has not been for local consumption. The conditions for the grants lay down that each local authority should bear, without exchequer assistance,



the cost of inspecting sufficient meat for the needs of its own population, and that only meat inspected which is surplus to local requirements should be taken into account when claiming grants.

It is felt that the general public are becoming more food hygiene conscious following the publicity given to the Food Hygiene Regulations; this is borne out by a reference to the increased number of alleged contraventions reported to the department.

A successful Clean Air Exhibition was held at the beginning of the year; it emphasised the evils of air pollution and demonstrated the methods by which clean air can be achieved. It was well attended by the general public who showed a lively interest and undoubtedly became more aware of the necessity of obtaining a cleaner atmosphere and of the problems involved in this direction.

Four articled pupils are now employed in the department as a long term policy to alleviate the present shortage of inspectors; it is anticipated that two of these will present themselves for examination next year and it is confidently expected that the qualified staff will be augmented from this source.

A tribute must again be paid to the staff for their continued loyalty and support.

## **SECTION IV.**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

#### **1. Water Supplies.**

Routine samples were taken from the town's main supplies; 12 were submitted for chemical analysis and 22 for bacteriological examination. The reports received indicated that the supplies were satisfactory.

#### **2. Swimming Bath Water.**

A total of 12 chemical and 8 bacteriological samples was submitted for analysis and examination and all proved to be satisfactory ; the standards imposed are those obtaining for drinking water.

The use of "break point" chlorination was continued, and the maintenance of a satisfactory bacteriological standard indicated its efficiency.

#### **3. Offensive Trades.**

Offensive trades operated upon 9 premises compared with 10 premises during 1956; a rag, bone and skin dealer's business ceased to operate.

Three complaints were received with regard to alleged offensive odours emanating from premises on which animal tissues are processed, and these were duly investigated; no negligence by the two companies concerned could be proved. The nature of the processes is such that offensive odours are produced, and steps are taken to treat them and reduce nuisance to a minimum. Chemical deodorising equipment is installed in both premises, and one effect of this is to reduce the odour within the workshops and thereby reduce the nuisance which may arise by ventilation of the workshops during hot weather.

#### **4. Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises.**

Three applications were received and approved under Section 87 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936 for the registration of hairdressers and their premises; 155 persons and their premises are now on the register and 72 inspections were made.

### 5. Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.

Seven applications were received for entry in the local authority's list of persons entitled to sell poisons under Part II of the above-mentioned Act and the Regulations made thereunder ; these applications were granted. A total of 154 persons and firms operating from 193 premises is now on the register.

Ten routine visits were paid to the premises listed for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Regulations with regard to the storage and sale of Part II poisons.

### 6. Sanitation.

A total of 1,774 complaints was received and investigated.

The following table summarises the inspections made and the notices served and complied.

|                                | Inspections made | NOTICES.    |           |               |           |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
|                                |                  | Served      |           | Complied with |           |
|                                |                  | Inti-mation | Statutory | Inti-mation   | Statutory |
| Dwelling Houses :—             |                  |             |           |               |           |
| Public Health Act ...          | 1,932            | 798         | 261       | 433           | 279       |
| Drainage ... ..                | 670              | 85          | 148       | 85            | 148       |
| Miscellaneous ...              | 1,827            | —           | —         | —             | —         |
| Totals ... ..                  | 4,429            | 883         | 409       | 518           | 427       |
| Total revisits to all premises |                  |             |           | 5,056         |           |
| Total improvements recorded    |                  |             |           | 1,788         |           |

### 7. Infectious Diseases.

One hundred and sixty visits were made in connection with cases of infectious diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health. Housing conditions, contacts and their employment, milk supplies and, in appropriate cases, the means of isolation formed the subjects of the enquiries.



## 8. Keeping of Animals.

Fifty-four inspections of premises were made in connection with the keeping of animals.

## 9. Fumigation, Disinfection and Disinfestation.

The following table summarises the action taken :—

### Fumigation and Disinfection.

|                                |     |     |     |     |    |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| No. of rooms sprayed           | ... | ... | ... | ... | 61 |
| No. of rooms fumigated         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 83 |
| No. of library books fumigated | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 |
| Articles sprayed—              |     |     |     |     |    |
| Personal clothing              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39 |
| Bedding                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Blankets                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |

### Disinfestation.

|                        |     |     |     |     |    |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| No. of rooms sprayed   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 66 |
| No. of rooms fumigated | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |

## 10. Smoke Abatement.

On the 31st December, 1956, certain sections of the Clean Air Act, 1956 became operative, and the remainder are expected to come into force during the early part of 1958.

Those portions which operated during the year include the undermentioned :—

(a) Provisions for the formation of “ smoke control areas ” in which the emission of smoke would be prohibited or reduced with certain exemptions.

(b) The requirement that new furnaces shall be capable of being operated continuously without smoke so far as practicable.

(c) Compulsory notification to the local authority of the proposed installation of new furnaces.

(d) Optional submission to the local authority of plans and details of proposed new furnaces for approval.

(e) The requirement that new chimneys at industrial premises shall be of sufficient height to prevent so far as practicable the emission of smoke, grit, dust or gases from becoming prejudicial to health or a nuisance.

(f) The incorporation in Building Byelaws of the requirement that arrangements for heating and cooking are designed for burning gas, electricity, coke or anthracite or are appliances of a description exempted conditionally or unconditionally from the provisions of section 11 of the Clean Air Act (i.e. oil burning appliances).

#### Smoke Control Areas and Smokeless Zones.

“Smoke control areas” can be established under the Clean Air Act and “smokeless zones” can be set up under the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1950.

While the general effect of action under either Act may be the same, the procedure is different. The Clean Air Act makes provision for the payment of grants in respect of necessary work in the conversions of domestic appliances at premises included in smoke control areas; these grants amount to 70% of the cost of the work necessary, 40% being contributed by the Minister and 30% by the local authority. Under the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, grants are optional and there is no exchequer contribution. It was decided that the Clean Air Act is the statute under which action would be taken by this authority.

A decision in principle was made to establish a “smoke control area” within the boundaries of the area, defined as a possible “smokeless zone” under the Wolverhampton Corporation Act and situated in the centre of the town. The area contains a range of different types of premises and includes a number of municipal buildings. The decision in principle has not yet been submitted to the Minister, but inspections of a number of premises were carried out in order to obtain information required for this submission.

#### Notification of Intention to Install Furnaces.

The clause in the Act, which allows the installation of a furnace without notification if work had begun or an agreement made to purchase before the 31st December, 1956, was the reason for the small number of notifications received of intention to install furnaces; in the case of large installations, a considerable time may elapse between an agreement to purchase and the date when installation is commenced. It is expected that the number of notifications will increase.

### Prior Approval of Furnaces.

No applications for prior approval were received.

### Height of Chimneys.

Proposals to erect chimneys at industrial premises were received in two instances, and were in connection with small installations only ; in both cases the height of the chimney was increased at the suggestion of this department and the proposals were subsequently approved.

### Smoke Observations.

Seventy-nine smoke observations were made and two excessive emissions of black smoke from two factories were recorded ; in both instances the boilers were hand fired with bituminous coal. In the one instance, the boiler is used only as a reserve while the one normally in operation undergoes inspection and repair ; it is used on only rare occasions and is difficult to fire without excessive smoke. The operation of the boiler was discontinued after a few days and the boiler was not again used during the year. In the second instance, the smoke was due to faulty firing methods, which were subsequently improved ; although smoke continued to be emitted it was not again recorded as excessive.

This type of installation, which may not contravene the current byelaws in respect of the emission of black smoke, may be difficult to operate within the limitations imposed by the Clean Air Act, 1956 and therefore modification, replacement or a change of fuel may be necessary.

Improvements were made to some existing installations by conversion from coal to oil firing : in other instances, additional equipment was provided to meet increased demands on boilers and furnaces and consequently some of the older and less efficient plant was replaced or subjected to a lighter load.

## **11. Atmospheric Pollution.**

Investigations were continued by means of one deposit gauge, four lead peroxide cylinders, one volumetric sulphur dioxide measuring apparatus and one smoke filter.



The deposit in the Cleveland Road area was at the rate of 237.8 tons per square mile.

## **12. West Midlands Clean Air Campaign.**

Various local authorities co-operated in this campaign, and the West Midlands Clean Air Committee arranged the dates for a series of Clean Air Exhibitions. The Wolverhampton exhibition was held from January 22nd to 25th in the Wulfrun Hall and was well attended by both adults and children.

The principal exhibitors included the Midlands Electricity Board, the West Midlands Gas Board, the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the National Smoke Abatement Society, the Combustion Engineering Association and the local authority. Exhibits included a wide range of smokeless domestic and industrial heating and cooking apparatus, smokeless fuels of various types, instruments for measuring pollution, smoke density alarms, and models of factory furnaces and floor warming systems.

On the health department stand were graphical statistics of air pollution in the borough, maps indicating a proposed smokeless zone or smoke control area, open areas due to slum clearance, new building estates, and the areas in which vegetation was affected by air pollution; examples of affected stonework and painted surfaces, human lung tissue, clean and used air-filters, and sludge from air cleaning apparatus were also displayed. Vegetation and window glazing from an unpolluted area were exhibited, together with examples from within the borough and from Kew Gardens, which indicated the effects of varying degrees of pollution.

British Railways provided an exhibit including models of locomotives, showing the manner in which they were developing oil and electric traction and discontinuing the use of coal fired engines.

A series of six meetings was arranged and these were held in the afternoons and evenings; two meetings were allocated to each of the three main exhibitors, viz :— the Gas Board, the Electricity Board and the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation. Talks were given on their particular products and films were shown; a Brains Trust was arranged by the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation.

In order to interest children, films were shown at schools during the week prior to the exhibition ; organised parties of school children attended the exhibition and displayed a genuine interest. A poster competition was arranged for them, and the standard of entries was high. One entry was considered suitable as the basis for a poster for use in another campaign and was, after slight modification, used for the North Western Clean Air Campaign.

In addition to the exhibition in the Wulfrun Hall, a mobile exhibit was provided and operated from various selected sites within the borough during the week preceding and the week of the exhibition.

Altogether, the exhibition was considered a success, and the time and effort spent on preparation and advertising had been well worth while. Thanks were expressed to the many individuals and concerns who co-operated with the department in the organisation of the exhibition.

It was felt that the general public had learned something of the evils of air pollution and the methods by which clean air can be achieved. In the next decade, the principles preached will have to be put into practice, and it is hoped that eventually the more gruesome and costly examples of air pollution will in truth be "exhibition pieces" and not specimens to be seen every day.

### **13. Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.**

In addition to works of building construction, etc., it is estimated that there are 943 factories, 869 having mechanical power and 74 having no mechanical power.

Eighty-six inspections were carried out for the purpose of enforcing those parts of the Factories Acts and Regulations for which the local authority is responsible. As a result of these inspections, 15 notices were served ; of the 35 defects found, 18 were of insufficient, unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation. Defects remedied amounted to 41, of which 25 referred to sanitary accommodation.

Details of inspections made, defects found and remedied, etc. are set out in the following tables :—

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

| Premises   | No.<br>on<br>Register | Number of        |                    |                   |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|  |                       | Inspec-<br>tions | Written<br>Notices | Prose-<br>cutions |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities ... ..                      | 74                    | 2                | —                  | —                 |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority ... ..                      | 869                   | 83               | 15                 | —                 |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority ... ..<br>(excluding outworkers premises) | 87                    | 1                | —                  | —                 |
| Totals ... ..  | 1,030                 | 86               | 15                 | —                 |

## Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars   | No. of cases in which defects were found |          |                   |                   | No. of cases in which prosecutions instituted |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
|   | Found                                    | Remedied | Referred          |                   |   |
|   |  |          | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector |   |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...  | 9  | 8        | —                 | 1                 | —   |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) ...   | —  | —        | —                 | —                 | —   |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ...   | —  | —        | —                 | —                 | —   |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...   | —  | —        | —                 | —                 | —   |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...                                   | —  | —        | —                 | —                 | —   |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)  |  |          |                   |                   |   |
| (a) Insufficient ...  | 5  | 7        | —                 | 4                 | —   |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective   | 12                                       | 14       | —                 | 4                 | —   |
| (c) Not separate for sexes  | 1  | 4        | —                 | 3                 | —   |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) | 8  | 8        | —                 | 2                 | —   |
| Totals ...  | 35                                       | 41       | —                 | 14                | —   |



#### **14. Noise Nuisances.**

Section 107 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936 makes provision for action in respect of excessive, unreasonable or unnecessary noise where this is injurious or dangerous to health, but the defence available favours the person carrying on any trade, business or occupation and attempts are therefore made to achieve satisfactory results by co-operation.

The majority of the complaints received concerned industrial premises ; one such complaint referred to considerable noise in the course of building alterations, and on investigation it was ascertained that the noise was unavoidable and of a temporary nature.

All complaints were brought to the notice of the persons or firms concerned and efforts were made to reduce the noise to a minimum in each case.

#### **15. Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.**

No further applications for registration were received ; the type of work specified in the Act was carried on at 8 premises registered for this purpose.

Six samples were taken and all were found to comply with the standards of cleanliness laid down in the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1951.

#### **16. Canal Boats.**

Thirty-six inspections were carried out and 33 infringements of the Public Health Act and the Canal Boat Regulations were found. Eighteen notices were served, 10 of which were complied with ; in addition, 3 of the notices outstanding at the end of 1956 were complied with.

The population of the boats inspected amounted to 73 persons, of whom 53 were adults and 20 were children.

#### **17. Rodent Control.**

Details of the activity are given in the following report, which was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. No new poisons were recommended ; warfarin was used in the majority of the treatments carried out and continued to produce good results. Appropriate action was taken concerning rat infestations resulting from defective drainage.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

|   | Type of Property          |  |   |  |                          |
|---|---------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------|
|   | Non-Agricultural          |  |   |  | (5)<br>Agri-<br>cultural |
|   | (1)<br>Local<br>Authority | (2)<br>Dwelling<br>Houses<br>(incl. Coun-<br>cil Houses) | (3)<br>All other<br>(including<br>Business<br>Premises) | (4)<br>Total of<br>Cols. (1),<br>(2) and (3) |                          |
| (i) Number of properties in Local Authority's District                                | 245                       | 44,834   | 6,902   | 51,981                                       | 8                        |
| (ii) Number of properties inspected as a result of—                                   |                           |  |   |  |                          |
| (a) Notification  | 82                        | 640  | 168   | 890  | —                        |
| (b) Survey under the Act  | —                         | —  | —   | —  | 8                        |
| (c) Otherwise   | —                         | —  | —   | —  | —                        |
| (iii) Total inspections carried out—including reinspections                           | 167                       | 756  | 226   | 1,149  | 8                        |
| (iv) Number of properties inspected (in Sect. ii) which were found to be infested by— |                           |  |   |  |                          |
| (a) Rats { Major  | —                         | —  | —   | —  | —                        |
| Minor   | 34                        | 296  | 73  | 403  | 3                        |
| (b) Mice { Major  | —                         | —  | —   | —  | —                        |
| Minor   | 35                        | 264  | 89  | 388  | —                        |
| (v) Number of infested properties (in Sect. iv) treated by the Local Authority        | 68                        | 551  | 162   | 781  | —                        |
| (vi) Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments                             | 129                       | 647  | 215   | 991  | —                        |

### **18. Nuisances from Pigeons.**

The practice of trapping pigeons in the town centre was suspended during the summer months, but was recommenced towards the end of the year; seventeen ringed and eleven unringed birds were trapped and disposed of. The practice commenced in December, 1955, and at the end of 1957 the number of birds which had been trapped amounted to 201 ringed and 292 unringed, making a total of 493.

In September, a request was received from the Water Department for assistance in reducing the nuisances caused by pigeons at one of their waterworks situated outside the borough. Traps were placed on the roofs of the premises concerned; at the end of October the nuisances were much less in evidence, and the traps were removed. During the period September 26th to October 31st, 69 ringed and 22 unringed birds were trapped.

## **SECTION V.**

### **HOUSING.**

#### **1. Slum Clearance.**

The Council's slum clearance proposals, which had been approved in 1955 by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, envisaged the clearance of 2,250 houses in areas and 250 individual houses during the five years commencing the 1st January, 1955.

Considerable progress was again made towards the achievement of the objective. A further four clearance areas, which involved 177 houses, were represented.

Many of the houses represented individually had been scheduled for inclusion in the Council's proposed clearance schemes, but their condition became such that immediate action was necessary to secure the rehousing of the occupants.

The following data summarise the progress made under Parts II and III of the Housing Act, 1957 :—

#### **(A) Clearance Schemes.**

##### **(i) Schemes initiated 1954—1956.**

The following table gives the numbers of houses included in these schemes together with details of the progress made regarding the displacement of persons and the number of houses demolished :—



| Clearance Scheme                | No. of occupied houses. | Estimated number of persons to be displaced. | Activity during the year 1957. |                           | Progress since initiation of scheme. |                           |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                 |                         |  | No. of houses demolished.      | No. of persons displaced. | No. of houses demolished.            | No. of persons displaced. |
| Charles Street                  | 111                     | 349  | 23                             | 10                        | 98                                   | 315                       |
| Herbert Street                  | 24                      | 100  | 8                              | 3                         | 23                                   | 70                        |
| Grove Street (Heath Town)       | 71                      | 220  | 2                              | 1                         | 71                                   | 217                       |
| Wolverhampton Road (Heath Town) | 18                      | 65   | 1                              | 3                         | 16                                   | 62                        |
| St. Matthew Street              | 142                     | 427  | 109                            | 99                        | 120                                  | 388                       |
| Montrose Street                 | 98                      | 329  | 65                             | 40                        | 71                                   | 278                       |
| Vauxhalls                       | 119                     | 346  | 27                             | 157                       | 27                                   | 336                       |
| Bagnall Street                  | 223                     | 722  | 191                            | 273                       | 191                                  | 720                       |
| Wright Street                   | 107                     | 351  | 62                             | 153                       | 68                                   | 350                       |
| Pond Lane                       | 44                      | 139  | —                              | 79                        | —                                    | 138                       |
| Pearson Street                  | 140                     | 453  | 5                              | 330                       | 7                                    | 348                       |
| Moseley Street                  | 8                       | 29   | 5                              | 24                        | 5                                    | 28                        |
| Graiseley Row                   | 108                     | 346  | 3                              | 187                       | 3                                    | 187                       |
| Lower Stafford Street           | 125                     | 381  | —                              | 188                       | —                                    | 188                       |
| All Saints Road                 | 112                     | 280  | —                              | 25                        | —                                    | 25                        |
| St. John's Square               | 94                      | 463  | —                              | 27                        | —                                    | 27                        |

The last four schemes were confirmed, with minor modifications, by the Minister of Housing and Local Government during 1957.

**(ii) Schemes initiated during 1957.****(a) Tower Street Clearance Scheme.**

This small scheme, which comprised 20 houses near the town centre, was represented on the 1st February.

Three of the properties were acquired by the Council and a Compulsory Purchase Order was made in respect of the remaining 17 houses.

The Minister did not hold a Local Public Inquiry ; the one objection was heard informally, and subsequently the Order was confirmed with a slight modification.

**(b) Oxley Street Clearance Scheme.**

This scheme was not included in the original five year programme, and was initiated for the purpose of providing an area near the town centre where the " patching " provisions of the Housing Act could be put into operation. Difficulties have been experienced in finding suitable accommodation for small numbers of tenants in several of the areas already dealt with, and it is hoped that the houses to be retained for " patching " purposes will help to solve this problem.

The scheme, which comprised one Clearance Area affecting 89 houses, was represented on the 29th March, and the Council subsequently made a Compulsory Purchase Order on the 24th June.

Thirteen objections were received in respect of 32 " pink " properties. The Local Public Inquiry was held on the 10th December and confirmation of the Order is awaited.

**(c) Church Street (Heath Town) Scheme.**

This scheme, which comprised 2 Clearance Areas affecting 58 houses, was represented on the 3rd June ; a Compulsory Purchase Order involving all the houses was made on the 22nd July.

The Local Public Inquiry in respect of this Order had not been held by the 31st December.

### (iii) Future Programme.

The following provisional programme of the areas to be represented during 1958 was formulated :—

|                       |     |     |     |             |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| Cobden Lane Area      | ... | ... | ... | 300 houses. |
| Franchise Street Area | ... | ... | ... | 200 „       |
| Steelhouse Lane Area  | ... | ... | ... | 240 „       |
| Coventry Street Area  | ... | ... | ... | 20 „        |
| Total                 |     |     |     | 760 „       |

The preliminary inspections of the properties in the Cobden Lane Area had been completed by the end of the year, and inspections of the houses in the Franchise Street Area were in progress.

### (B) Individual Unfit Houses.

Ninety-four houses were represented for action under Part II of the Housing Act, 1957. In addition, 35 unfit houses owned by the Council were dealt with and, in these instances, the Medical Officer of Health issued certificates of unfitness to satisfy the provisions of the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956.

#### 2. Common Lodging Houses.

Twenty-nine inspections were made of the one common lodging house. The premises were included in a Compulsory Purchase Order which had been confirmed by the Minister during 1955 and negotiations for the purchase of this property were still in progress.

#### 3. Overcrowding.

Forty-eight premises were inspected and measured following complaints. In addition, 6 inspections were made of new types of council houses, the Housing Manager having requested their “permitted numbers.”

#### 4. Moveable Dwellings.

Sixty-two visits were made to accommodation of this nature.



Six applications to station caravans on various sites were received ; three were granted and three were refused.

In addition, an application to use land as a site for caravans was approved, subject to certain work being carried out. The work had not been commenced at the end of the year.

### **5. Improvement Grants.**

The administrative work in connection with applications for improvement grants is carried out by the Borough Engineer, but this department is always consulted regarding the suitability of the property ; 161 such enquiries were received and dealt with.

The Housing Committee approved 101 applications for improvement grants and 91 grants were paid following completion of the works.

### **6. Certificates of Disrepair.**

#### **(A) The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954—Part II.**

The following is a summary of the action taken with regard to applications received for the issue of Certificates of Disrepair and for their revocation during the period 1st January to the 5th July :—

#### Certificates of Disrepair.

|   |     |     |   |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| Number of applications received                             | ... | ... | 2 |
| Number of applications withdrawn                            | ... | ... | 1 |
| Number of certificates granted                              | ... | ... | 1 |
| Number of applications refused                              | ... | ... | — |
| Number of applications outstanding on the<br>5th July, 1957 | ... | ... | — |

#### Revocation of Certificates of Disrepair.

|   |     |     |   |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| Number of applications received                             | ... | ... | — |
| Number of applications withdrawn                            | ... | ... | — |
| Number of certificates granted                              | ... | ... | — |
| Number of applications refused                              | ... | ... | — |
| Number of applications outstanding on the<br>5th July, 1957 | ... | ... | 1 |

**(B) Rent Act, 1957.**

The following is a summary of the action taken with regard to applications received for the issue of Certificates of Disrepair and for their cancellation during the period 6th July, 1957 to 31st December, 1957 :—

**Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.**

|  |        |    |
|--|--------|----|
| Number of applications for certificates  | ...    | 93 |
| Number of decisions not to issue certificates  | ...    | 2  |
| Number of decisions to issue certificates—   |        |    |
| (i) in respect of some but not all defects   | ...    | 41 |
| (ii) in respect of all defects   | ... .. | 1  |
| Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule                    | ...    | —  |
| Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule | ... .. | —  |

**Part II.—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.**

|   |        |   |
|---|--------|---|
| Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates | ... .. | 1 |
| Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates                         | ... .. | — |
| Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections        | ... .. | — |
| Certificates cancelled by Local Authority                                     | ...    | — |

**SECTION VI.****INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****1. Meat Inspection.****(a) Public Abattoir.**

The following table gives details of the numbers of animals slaughtered during the years 1957, 1956 and 1955 :—

|                                 | 1957    | 1956    | 1955    |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Cattle (other than cows) ... .. | 17,034  | 13,692  | 10,250  |
| Cows ... ..                     | 3,704   | 3,204   | 4,349   |
| Calves ... ..                   | 4,866   | 6,012   | 4,452   |
| Sheep ... ..                    | 81,359  | 73,760  | 59,384  |
| Pigs ... ..                     | 54,053  | 51,114  | 53,574  |
| Totals ...                      | 161,016 | 147,782 | 132,009 |

The total kill for 1957, compared with that for 1956, showed an increase of 9%, and exceeded any pre-war or post-war figure.

The number of cattle (including cows) slaughtered showed an increase of 22.7% on the figure for the previous year and an increase of 42% on the kill for 1955.

The staff, unchanged from 1956, comprised three full-time meat inspectors and one part-time clerk.

### **Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.**

|  | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows  | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs   | Horses |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| Number killed  | 17,034                      | 3,704 | 4,866  | 81,359                | 54,053 | —      |
| Number inspected   | 17,034                      | 3,704 | 4,866  | 81,359                | 54,053 | —      |
| All diseases except tuber-<br>culosis and cysticerci:—   |                             |       |        |                       |        |        |
| Whole carcasses con-<br>demned   | 3                           | 17    | 35     | 65                    | 76     | —      |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned   | 1,872                       | 1,373 | 5      | 525                   | 1,167  | —      |
| Percentage of the<br>number inspected<br>affected with disease<br>other than tuber-<br>culosis and cysti-<br>cerci:— | 11.00                       | 37.52 | 0.82   | 0.72                  | 2.29   | —      |
| Tuberculosis :—  |                             |       |        |                       |        |        |
| Whole carcasses con-<br>demned   | 12                          | 35    | 4      | —                     | 24     | —      |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned   | 515                         | 618   | 1      | —                     | 1,016  | —      |
| Percentage of the<br>number inspected<br>affected with tuber-<br>culosis   | 3.09                        | 17.62 | 0.10   | —                     | 1.92   | —      |
| Cysticercosis :—   |                             |       |        |                       |        |        |
| Carcases of which<br>some part or organ<br>was condemned   | 55                          | 9     | —      | —                     | —      | —      |
| Carcases submitted to<br>treatment by refri-<br>geration   | 55                          | 9     | —      | —                     | —      | —      |
| Generalised and totally<br>condemned   | —                           | —     | —      | —                     | —      | —      |



Meat and Offals Condemned. The total weight of meat and offals condemned from all sources amounted to :—

|        |     |     |         |         |        |         |
|--------|-----|-----|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| Meat   | ... | ... | 38 tons | 9 cwt.  | 2 qrs. | 21 lbs. |
| Offals | ... | ... | 57 tons | 9 cwt.  | 3 qrs. | 25 lbs. |
| Total  | ... |     | 95 tons | 19 cwt. | 2 qrs. | 18 lbs. |

The weight of meat condemned was approximately 1/300th of the total throughput of fresh carcase meat.

Analysis of Weight of Meat and Offals Condemned.

|               | Tuberculosis |                | Other Diseases |                | Totals |       |      |      |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|------|
|               | Meat<br>lbs. | Offals<br>lbs. | Meat<br>lbs.   | Offals<br>lbs. | Tons   | Cwts. | Qrs. | lbs. |
| Abattoir      |              |                |                |                |        |       |      |      |
| Cattle        | 10,137       | 18,776         | 3,012          | 35,037         | 29     | 17    | 3    | 14   |
| Cows          | 29,183       | 26,149         | 11,378         | 32,302         | 44     | 4     | 0    | 4    |
| Calves        | 211          | 74             | 1,674          | 578            | 1      | 2     | 2    | 17   |
| Sheep         | —            | —              | 3,757          | 2,990          | 3      | 0     | 0    | 27   |
| Pigs          | 15,669       | 3,363          | 9,833          | 9,486          | 17     | 2     | 1    | 19   |
| Cold Stores   |              |                |                |                |        |       |      |      |
| Cattle        | —            | —              | 545            | 6              | —      | 4     | 3    | 19   |
| Cows          | —            | —              | —              | —              | —      | —     | —    | —    |
| Calves        | —            | —              | —              | —              | —      | —     | —    | —    |
| Sheep         | —            | —              | 296            | —              | —      | 2     | 2    | 16   |
| Pigs          | —            | —              | —              | 28             | —      | —     | 1    | 0    |
| Poultry       | —            | —              | 48             | —              | —      | —     | 1    | 20   |
| Other Sources |              |                |                |                |        |       |      |      |
| Cattle        | —            | —              | 462            | 8              | —      | 4     | 0    | 22   |
| Cows          | —            | —              | —              | —              | —      | —     | —    | —    |
| Calves        | —            | —              | —              | —              | —      | —     | —    | —    |
| Sheep         | —            | —              | —              | —              | —      | —     | —    | —    |
| Pigs          | —            | —              | —              | —              | —      | —     | —    | —    |
| Totals        | 55,208       | 48,362         | 31,005         | 80,435         | 95     | 19    | 2    | 18   |

Tuberculosis Orders 1938-1946. Five cows were received for slaughter under these Orders; in three instances, the complete carcasses and all the organs were condemned. Part of the carcass and organs of another animal, and the offal only, in the fifth instance, were condemned.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933—1954. Sixty-four licences were renewed and four new licences issued, making a total of 68 persons on the register.

In addition 5 slaughtermen, issued with licences by other local authorities, were employed.

#### **(b) Private Slaughterhouse.**

At the only private slaughterhouse, 12,405 pigs were slaughtered for bacon curing. 607 pigs (4.89%) showed evidence of disease; 455 (3.67%) were found to be affected with tuberculosis, while 152 (1.23%) were affected with other diseases.

The total amount of meat and offals condemned was 4 tons 2 cwts. 1 qr. 16 lbs., consisting of 3 tons 3 cwts. 2 qrs. 0 lbs. of meat and offals from animals affected with tuberculosis and 18 cwts. 3 qrs. 16 lbs. from animals affected with other diseases.

#### **(c) Frozen Meat Wholesale Depots.**

Constant supervision was maintained over the two frozen meat wholesale depots in the town and also over the two similar depots located within the Abattoir Sales Hall. The former establishments now also receive regular and increasing supplies of home killed beef and all this meat together with its associated offal is re-examined prior to sale.

Total weights of 7 cwts. 2 qr. 7 lbs. of frozen carcass meat and 1 qr. 6 lbs. of frozen offal were condemned from these depots.

### **2. Food Inspection.**

One thousand five hundred and eighty nine visits were paid to grocers' shops, warehouses, the markets, restaurants, school kitchens and other food premises for the purpose of food inspection. The total weight of foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption was 4 tons 16 cwts. 0 qrs. 1 lb.

### 3. Disposal of Condemned Food.

Carcase meat and offal are processed at the Public Abattoir, and the residual fertilisers are sold to a local firm of horticulturists. Tinned goods are disposed of by incineration at the Cleansing Department's depot.

### 4. Milk Supply.

Regular inspection of dairies was carried out together with close supervision of milk processing by pasteurisation and sterilisation.

Ninety-one and 451 visits were made to dairies and milk shops respectively.

#### REGISTRATIONS.

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| Number of Persons and Firms on Register           | ...    | 463 |
| Dairies   | ... .. | 8   |
| Bottled Milk Shops                                | ... .. | 451 |
| Dairies outside the Borough retailing milk within |        | 4   |
| Retail Purveyors                                  | ... .. | 29  |
| Dealers, Sterilisers and Pasteurisers             | ... .. | 3   |

Bacteriological Examination. Two hundred and seventy eight samples were taken, and the results of the bacteriological tests were considered to be very satisfactory and indicated that the milk supply maintained a high standard.

#### Details of Samples Taken.

| Class of Milk                       | Number taken | Appropriate Tests | Passed | Failed |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------|--------|
| Tuberculin Tested<br>(Farm Bottled) | 32           | Methylene Blue    | 25     | 7      |
| Tuberculin Tested<br>(Pasteurised)  | 78           | Phosphatase       | 78     | —      |
| Pasteurised                         | 88           | Methylene Blue    | 77     | 1      |
|                                     |              | Phosphatase       | 88     | —      |
|                                     |              | Methylene Blue    | 88     | —      |
| Sterilised                          | 80           | Turbidity         | 80     | —      |



### 5. Ice Cream.

Sixteen applications for the registration of premises for the sale of pre-packed ice cream were received and approved, and 14 premises were removed from the register, making a total of 506 premises registered. Two manufacturers' premises were removed and one added to the register, making a total of 10 such premises registered.

The following table summarises the attention paid to both types of premises :—

Inspections of :—

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Vendors' Premises                  | 205 |
| Manufacturers' Premises            | 61  |
| Notices Served (Intimation)        | 2   |
| Notices Complied with (Intimation) | 3   |
| Total Improvements Recorded        | 4   |

### Sampling.

#### (a) Methylene Blue Test.

Seventy-six samples of ice cream were examined and placed in the Ministry's provisional grades. Eight (10.5%) failed to pass the prescribed test compared with 4 (6%) for the previous year. Following investigations and advice, repeat samples were taken and found to be satisfactory.

The following tables show a summary of the results obtained and also give a comparison with 1956 :—

#### Manufactured within the Borough.

| Year | Total No. of samples taken | PROVISIONAL GRADE |         |           |            |
|------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|------------|
|      |                            | 1                 | 2       | 3         | 4          |
| 1957 | 38                         | 30<br>79%         | —<br>—  | 2<br>5.3% | 6<br>15.7% |
| 1956 | 29                         | 23<br>79%         | 2<br>7% | —<br>—    | 4<br>14%   |

**Manufactured outside the Borough.**

| Year | Total<br>No. of<br>samples<br>taken | PROVISIONAL GRADE |           |        |        |
|------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------|--------|
|      |                                     | 1                 | 2         | 3      | 4      |
| 1957 | 38                                  | 37<br>97.4%       | 1<br>2.6% | —<br>— | —<br>— |
| 1956 | 38                                  | 38<br>100%        | —         | —      | —      |

**Combined Summary.**

| Year | Total<br>No. of<br>samples<br>taken | PROVISIONAL GRADE |           |           |           |
|------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|      |                                     | 1                 | 2         | 3         | 4         |
| 1957 | 76                                  | 67<br>88.2%       | 1<br>1.3% | 2<br>2.6% | 6<br>7.9% |
| 1956 | 67                                  | 61<br>91%         | 2<br>3%   | —<br>—    | 4<br>6%   |

The following table shows the number of samples examined yearly from 1947 to 1957 inclusive together with the number and percentage reported upon adversely :—

| Year | No. of<br>Samples | Unsatisfactory |      |
|------|-------------------|----------------|------|
|      |                   | No.            | %    |
| 1947 | 69                | 48             | 70   |
| 1948 | 108               | 68             | 63   |
| 1949 | 99                | 31             | 31   |
| 1950 | 163               | 37             | 23   |
| 1951 | 117               | 12             | 10   |
| 1952 | 141               | 19             | 13   |
| 1953 | 140               | 1              | .7   |
| 1954 | 106               | 7              | 6.6  |
| 1955 | 50                | 2              | 4.0  |
| 1956 | 67                | 4              | 6.0  |
| 1957 | 76                | 8              | 10.5 |

### (b) Chemical Analysis.

Thirty-three samples of ice cream, including choc-bars, were submitted for chemical analysis compared with 42 for the previous year. All samples were reported to be genuine ; the average fat content (excluding choc-bars) was 9.89%.

Ice Lollies. In addition to the 10 premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream, 3 premises are registered for the manufacture of ice lollies only. Fourteen samples of varying flavours and composition were submitted for bacteriological examination compared with 29 for 1956, and were reported to be satisfactory.

### 6. Cream.

Three samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. There is no statutory standard for fresh cream ; the laboratory reported as follows :—

| No. of sample | Methylene Blue Test            | Phosphatase test | Coliform Organisms                             |
|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--|
| C1            | Was not decolourised in 4 hrs. | Passed           | Present in a 1/10th ml. dilution (Non faecal). |
| C2            | Was not reduced after 4 hrs.   | Passed           | None present in 1/10th ml. dilution.           |
| C3            | Was reduced at 0 hour.         | Passed           | None present in 1/10th ml. dilution.           |

### 7. Sampling.

Two hundred and ninety samples of food and drugs, consisting of 103 formal and 187 informal, were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst. Thirteen samples (4.48%), seven of which were formal, were found to be non-genuine or otherwise unsatisfactory.

Misleading or unsatisfactory matter printed on the labels was the reason for the majority of the adverse reports. An article sold as sour cream was in fact milk curd ; imported white fish caviar consisted of the roe of lumpfish and not of sturgeon ; an imported article sold under the name of bombay ducks consisted



of salted dried fish, while vitaminised cream was found to contain the same amount of vitamins as would be contained in butter. In each instance, the manufacturer or importer was communicated with, and the offending label was withdrawn.

Two samples of milk reported to be deficient in fat were followed up by "appeal to cow" samples taken at the farm where the milk was produced and bottled. The deficiency was found to arise from the bottling procedure and a letter of warning was sent to the producer. A bottle of sterilised milk, sold to a private customer, was submitted for analysis and reported to contain 91% of extraneous water. A visit to the dairy concerned revealed that this was due to a faulty bottle and to the method of milk sterilisation in use, combined with inadequate inspection at the dairy. Proceedings were instituted and the dairy was given an absolute discharge on payment of £3. 14s. 0d. costs.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

## Summary of Samples taken.

| Article                       | Number examined |          |       | Number adulterated |          |       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------|--------------------|----------|-------|
|                               | Formal          | Informal | Total | Formal             | Informal | Total |
| Baking Powder ... ..          |                 | 2        | 2     |                    |          |       |
| Bombay Ducks ... ..           | 1               | 1        | 2     | 1                  | 1        | 2     |
| Butter ... ..                 |                 | 10       | 10    |                    |          |       |
| Candied Peel ... ..           |                 | 8        | 8     |                    |          |       |
| Cereals ... ..                |                 | 5        | 5     |                    |          |       |
| Cheese ... ..                 |                 | 2        | 2     |                    |          |       |
| Coffee & Chicory ... ..       |                 | 1        | 1     |                    |          |       |
| Colouring Matter ... ..       |                 | 3        | 3     |                    |          |       |
| Cream ... ..                  | 3               | 2        | 5     |                    |          |       |
| Cream Cakes ... ..            | 4               |          | 4     |                    |          |       |
| Crystallised Pineapple ... .. |                 |          |       |                    |          |       |
| Slices ... ..                 | 1               | 1        | 2     |                    | 1        | 1     |
| Dried Fruit ... ..            |                 | 11       | 11    |                    |          |       |
| Fish Paste ... ..             |                 | 2        | 2     |                    |          |       |
| Fruit Juices ... ..           |                 | 2        | 2     |                    |          |       |
| Glace Cherries ... ..         |                 | 4        | 4     |                    |          |       |
| Ground Almonds ... ..         |                 | 7        | 7     |                    |          |       |
| Ground Nut Oil ... ..         |                 | 1        | 1     |                    |          |       |
| Honey ... ..                  |                 | 2        | 2     |                    |          |       |
| Ice Cream ... ..              |                 | 1        | 1     |                    |          |       |
| Jam ... ..                    |                 | 15       | 15    |                    |          |       |
| Jellies ... ..                |                 | 4        | 4     |                    |          |       |
| Lard ... ..                   |                 | 4        | 4     |                    |          |       |
| Lemon Curd ... ..             | 1               | 4        | 5     |                    |          |       |
| Margarine ... ..              |                 | 4        | 4     |                    |          |       |
| Marmalade ... ..              |                 | 5        | 5     |                    |          |       |
| Marzipan ... ..               |                 | 6        | 6     |                    |          |       |
| Milk ... ..                   | 76              | 13       | 89    | 2                  | 1        | 3     |
| Milk "Appeal to Cow" ... ..   |                 | 7        | 7     |                    |          |       |
| Miscellaneous Drugs ... ..    |                 | 3        | 3     |                    |          |       |
| Miscellaneous Foods ... ..    |                 | 15       | 15    |                    |          |       |
| Olive Oil ... ..              |                 | 1        | 1     |                    |          |       |
| Poppadums ... ..              | 1               | 1        | 2     | 1                  | 1        | 2     |
| Potted Shrimps ... ..         |                 | 2        | 2     |                    |          |       |
| Sauce ... ..                  |                 | 4        | 4     |                    |          |       |
| Sausage ... ..                | 7               | 4        | 11    |                    |          |       |
| Self Raising Flour ... ..     |                 | 1        | 1     |                    |          |       |
| Skimmed Milk Powder ... ..    |                 | 1        | 1     |                    |          |       |
| Spices ... ..                 |                 | 11       | 11    |                    |          |       |
| Sour Cream ... ..             | 1               | 1        | 2     | 1                  | 1        | 2     |
| Sugar ... ..                  |                 | 5        | 5     |                    |          |       |
| Tea ... ..                    |                 | 7        | 7     |                    |          |       |
| Vinegar ... ..                |                 | 3        | 3     |                    |          |       |
| Vitaminised Cream ... ..      | 1               |          | 1     | 1                  |          | 1     |
| Whisky ... ..                 | 6               |          | 6     |                    |          |       |
| White Fish Caviar ... ..      | 1               | 1        | 2     | 1                  | 1        | 2     |
| Totals ... ..                 | 103             | 187      | 290   | 7                  | 6        | 13    |

# FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

## Administrative Action Taken Regarding Samples Reported not to be Genuine.

| No. of Sample | Article of Food               | Formal or Informal | Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity | Legal Proceedings Instituted |                           | Observations                                       |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|               |                               |                    |  | Fine inflicted<br>£. s. d.   | Costs imposed<br>£. s. d. |  |
| 8             | Sour Cream                    | Informal           | Deficient of fat                       | 42 %                         |                           | See sample 23.<br>Formal sample genuine.           |
| 9             | Crystallised Pineapple Slices | Informal           | Unsatisfactory label                   |                              |                           |  |
| 23            | Sour Cream                    | Formal             | Deficient of fat                       | 39 %                         |                           | Letter of warning sent.                            |
| 29            | Vitaminised Cream             | Formal             | Misleading label                       |                              |                           |  |
| 57            | Bombay Ducks                  | Informal           | Unsatisfactory label                   |                              |                           | Letter of warning sent.<br>Letter of warning sent. |
| 91            | Bombay Ducks                  | Formal             | Unsatisfactory label                   |                              |                           |  |
| 94            | Poppadums                     | Informal           | Unsatisfactory label                   |                              |                           |  |
| 96            | White Fish                    | Informal           | Misleading label                       |                              |                           |  |
| 110           | Caviar                        | Formal             | Deficient of fat                       | 3 %                          |                           |  |
| 118           | Milk                          | Formal             | Deficient of fat                       | 23 %                         |                           |  |
| 172           | White Fish                    | Formal             | Misleading description                 |                              |                           | Letter of warning sent.<br>Letter of warning sent. |
| 173           | Caviar                        | Formal             | Unsatisfactory label                   |                              |                           |  |
| 227           | Poppadums                     | Informal           | Extraneous water                       | 91 %                         | 3. 14. 0                  |  |
|               | Sterilised Milk               |                    |  |                              |                           |  |



### 8. (a) Dried Hen Egg Albumen.

Three thousand pounds of dried hen egg albumen known to be infected with salmonella organisms were reconstituted and subjected to an approved process of heat treatment. Thirty samples of the treated product were taken for bacteriological examination; no organisms of the salmonella or shigella groups were isolated in any of the samples.

### (b) Danish Pasteurised Flake Hen Egg Albumen.

Twenty-two samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination; no organisms of the salmonella or shigella groups were isolated.

## 9. Frozen Whole Egg.

### (a) Australian.

A consignment of Australian frozen whole egg, controlled by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was transferred from Glasgow to Guy Avenue Cold Store. Prior to transfer, samples of the product examined in Glasgow had revealed the presence of salmonellae in two of them. In view of this and of the difficulty previously experienced with this type of egg, the Minister of Health requested that further sampling be carried out. A total of 170 samples, covering approximately 1% of the consignment, was taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. Salmonella organisms of the following types were isolated in 12 of the samples examined :—

|                          |     |     |     |    |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Salmonella new brunswick | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Salmonella typhi-murium  | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Salmonella pullorum      | ... | ... | ... | 10 |

Particulars and results of all samples were communicated to the Senior Medical Officer at the Ministry of Health. On behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, he authorised the destruction of the egg contaminated with salmonella new brunswick and salmonella typhi-murium. Salmonella pullorum is not normally considered to be pathogenic and was disregarded.

**(b) English.**

Four samples of English frozen whole egg, taken from the Municipal Cold Store and submitted for bacteriological examination, were reported to be satisfactory.

**(c) Chinese.**

In view of the history of the bulk supplies of the product, the agents for the Egg and Poultry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, voluntarily surrendered 1,562 lbs. of Chinese frozen whole egg for destruction. Condemnation certificates were issued.

**10. Contaminated Apples.**

Information was received from the Port Medical Officer of Health, Boston, that excessive amounts of arsenic and lead had been found on a consignment of Italian apples and that 155 cases of them had been despatched to Wolverhampton. Upon investigation, 57 cases were traced and impounded; four samples of apples, submitted for analysis, were reported as containing arsenic and lead in amounts considerably exceeding the recommended limits. It was decided that all the apples traced should be thoroughly washed and dried, and this work was carried out under the supervision of the department.

Three samples of the treated apples, submitted for analysis, proved to be satisfactory and the 57 cases were released for sale.

**11. Catering Establishments.**

Routine visits totalling 325 were paid to hotels, restaurants, snack bars and school kitchens. Sixteen informal notices were served, 14 were complied with and 66 improvements recorded.

**12. Provision Shops, Warehouses and other Shop Premises.**

Seven hundred and six inspections of provision shops and warehouses and 345 inspections of other shop premises were made. Sixty-six informal notices were served, 47 were complied with and 149 improvements recorded.

### **13. Wet and Fried Fish Shops.**

One hundred and sixty-eight inspections were made of these premises. Five informal notices were served, 5 were complied with and 17 improvements recorded.

### **14. Shell Fish.**

One sample of mussels was taken and submitted for bacteriological examination ; the laboratory report was satisfactory.

### **15. Mobile Fish and Chip Shop.**

One mobile shop continued to operate within the borough and although it is an old type of vehicle it complies with the existing legislation.

### **16. Registration of Butchers' Shops and Premises where Preserved Food, etc., is Prepared or Manufactured.**

The number of persons and premises registered under Section 67 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936, decreased by one from the previous year and totalled 176. Routine inspections numbered 339; 18 informal notices were served and 19 were complied with, resulting in 61 improvements.

Four applications were received in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the registration of premises where preserved food, etc., is prepared or manufactured ; the applications were in order and the premises registered. Fifty-seven inspections were made of the 60 premises on the register; four notices were complied with and 9 improvements were recorded.

### **17. Licensed Premises.**

A total of 255 visits was made to these premises ; 34 informal notices were served, 18 were complied with and 98 improvements recorded.

### **18. Bakehouses.**

A total of 70 routine inspections was made : 7 informal notices were complied with and 47 improvements recorded.



**19. The Food and Drugs Act, 1955.****Administrative Action Taken.**

(a) The following table summarises the action taken regarding contravention of this Act :—

| Article of Food              | Nature of Offence                   | Action Taken  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Loaf of bread                | Presence of grease                  | Warning letter sent to firm of bakers   |
| Wholemeal loaf               | Presence of extraneous matter       | Legal proceedings instituted : defendants convicted ; fined £5 and ordered to pay £5 5s. 0d. costs. |
| Wrapped sliced loaf of bread | Presence of strands of hessian      | Warning letter sent to firm of baker/retailers  |
| Wrapped sliced loaf of bread | Presence of beetle                  | Warning letter sent to firm of bakers   |
| Wrapped sliced loaf of bread | Presence of mould                   | Warning letters sent to retailer and firm of bakers.  |
| Loaf of bread                | Presence of string                  | Legal proceedings instituted ; defendants fined £10.  |
| Milk loaf                    | Extraneous matter                   | Warning letter sent to firm of retailer/bakers  |
| Aprosturettis (apple pie)    | Presence of mould                   | Warning letter sent to firm of retailer/bakers  |
| Currant bun                  | Presence of piece of paper          | Warning letter sent to firm of retailers  |
| Rhumbaba (cream cake)        | Presence of wasp                    | Warning letter sent to firm of retailers  |
| Cheese croissants            | Presence of mould                   | Warning letter sent to firm of retailer/bakers  |
| Shoulder of bacon            | Presence of maggots                 | Warning letter sent to firm of retailers  |
| Bottle of ginger beer        | Presence of fly                     | Warning letter sent to firm of bottlers   |
| Jar of fish paste            | Presence of beetle                  | Warning letter sent to firm of manufacturers  |
| Bag of plain flour           | Presence of beetle                  | Warning letter sent to retailers and wholesalers  |
| Fowl                         | Maggot infested                     | Legal proceedings instituted : defendant convicted ; £20 fine imposed                               |
| Tin of luncheon meat         | Presence of fly                     | Warning letter sent to firm of wholesalers  |
| Imported ox liver            | Discoloured and offensive condition | Warning letter sent to firm of retailers  |
| Steak and kidney pie         | Presence of wasp                    | Warning letter sent to firm of bakers   |
| Bottle of milk               | Presence of fly                     | Warning letters sent to firm of producer/bottlers and to firm of retailer/bottlers                  |
| New potatoes                 | Falsely labelled                    | Warning letter sent to stallholder  |
| Packet of flaked rice        | Presence of maggots                 | Warning letters sent to firm of retailers and firm of suppliers.                                    |

(b) The following tables summarise the action taken regarding contraventions of The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 :—

| Regulations contravened                                  | Premises or vehicles concerned  | Action Taken  |
|--|---|---|
| 5, 6, 16, 19, 23, 24                                     | Premises used for the wholesale of provisions and the preparation and storage of food.      | Legal proceedings instituted ; defendants convicted—fined a total of £30.       |
| 5, 6, 8, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23                              | Premises used for the sale of fruit and other foods and the preparation and storage of food | Legal proceedings instituted ; defendants convicted— fined a total of £25.      |
| 5, 6, 8, 23, 24  | Premises used for the sale of fruit and other foods   | Legal proceedings instituted ; defendant convicted— fined a total of £12.       |
| Food to be protected from risk of contamination.<br>8(a) | Chain stores  | Warning letter sent to manager.   |
| Personal cleanliness.<br>9(e)                            | Fish shop   | Legal proceedings instituted ; defendant convicted—fined £5, costs £1. 17s. 0d. |
| 9(e)   | Provision shop  | Warning letter sent to offender.  |
| 9(e)   | Grocer's shop   | Warning letter sent to offender.  |
| 9(e)   | Refreshment bar of ballroom   | Warning letter sent to manager.   |
| 9(e)   | Cafe  | Warning letter sent to offender.  |
| 9(e)   | Butcher's shop  | Warning letter sent to offender.  |
| 9(e)   | Butcher's shop  | Warning letter sent to offender.  |
| Accommodation for clothing, etc.<br>18(1)                | Refreshment bar of ballroom   | Warning letter sent to manager.   |
| All  | Greengrocer's shop  | Letters sent to owner and occupier re shop not complying with Regulations.      |
| Transport of meat.<br>29                                 | Three ton lorry   | Letter sent to owner re defective state of roof.                                |
| 29   | Vehicle   | Warning letter sent to employer re unsatisfactory vehicle.                      |
| 29   | Vehicle   | Warning letter sent to owner re meat being laid upon wooden floor of van.       |
| 29   | Vehicle   | Warning letter sent to owner re dilapidated condition.                          |

Persons carrying meat to wear overalls, etc.

| Regulation contravened | Details   | Action taken   |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 30                     | Person carrying meat into butcher's shop—no washable head covering.                     | Warning letter sent to offender and to firm of butchers. |
| 30                     | Persons collecting and transporting meat—no washable head covering or overalls.         | Warning letter sent to employer.                         |
| 30                     | Persons carrying meat into butcher's shop—no washable head covering and overalls dirty. | Warning letter sent to offenders, and to employers.      |



